

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Free kick? The vital match - or is it? England's footballers play Luxembourg tonight, but they could be wasting their time. Stuart Jones Reports. Plus the rest of the European championship action.



Middle man With the Commonwealth summit approaching, The Times profiles Shridath Ramphal, who, as secretary-general, tries to reconcile countries with a common bond but sometimes differing interests.

Lingua Franca Alan Franks discovers dangers abroad in thinking you can speak the language.

Indian file The Books Page considers the buildings of the British Raj, the Nuremberg trials, Bernard Levin and Marguerite Yourcenar.

TSB boost for home buyers

Trustee Savings Bank Group announced that it will set aside £350m for mortgages in the year beginning November 21. If the big four banks also increase their mortgage budgets, house buyers should find it easier to arrange loans in the new year. Page 3

Moscow 'no'

Despite Moscow's rejection of President Reagan's latest offer on medium range missiles, the Geneva talks limped along for 35 minutes and will resume. Page 5

Blow for editor

Eurocommunists have succeeded in keeping the editor and deputy editor of the Morning Star out of the party's executive. Page 2

126% inflation

Israel's inflation rate jumped by a record 21.1 per cent last month to 126.1 per cent and may hit 200 per cent by the end of the year. Page 6

Falklands post

Mr David Taylor, an executive of Booker McConnell, has been appointed to the new post of Chief Executive to the Falkland Islands Government.

Boycott move

Yorkshire county cricket committee have issued a statement to 10,000 members of the club asking them to support the dismissal of Geoffrey Boycott. Page 20

Greek Cypriots call on world leaders to reject new state

Turkish Cypriots declared their sector of the divided island independent yesterday, shocking the Greek Cypriot community and provoking international condemnation. Greece won consent in principle for a joint rejection by its EEC partners of the new state, but Turkey extended a grudging recognition.

President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus sent urgent appeals to heads of state last night protesting against the unilateral proclamation of independence announced earlier in the day in the Turkish occupied part of this divided island.

The Turkish decision, reached unanimously during an extraordinary session of the Turkish Cypriot Legislative Assembly, caught the Cyprus Government and foreign diplomats by surprise.

The general impression was that the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Rauf Denktas, had been bluffing over the past six months when he warned repeatedly he would resort to just such a step.

In a quick reaction the internationally recognized Government of Mr Kyprianou, the Greek Cypriot leader, called for an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council.

Mr Denktas and his collaborators would not have resorted to this action if there had been no Turkish occupation army in northern Cyprus, Mr Kyprianou said in a proclamation broadcast live by government radio and television stations.

The international community must finally prove it rejects the law of the jungle," he said. Mr Kyprianou's official spokesman, Mr Andreas Christofides declared at the same time that Cyprus would try to get the Security Council to impose sanctions against Turkey for supporting Mr Denktas's UDI.

The Turkish UDI is seen by western diplomats here as a further step in the slow but steady progress toward the hardening of the de facto partition of the northern part of the island in the summer of 1974.

The Turkish Cypriot leadership took the first step a year after the invasion, through the unilateral proclamation of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus, an entity that gained no international recognition except from the occupying power, Turkey.

Intercommunal talks for a settlement of the Cyprus problem carried on intermittently since the invasion under United Nations auspices have failed to achieve any progress.

The Turkish Cypriot announcement said the new ministe would be known as "The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus." It added that its establishment would not hinder "but on the contrary facilitate the establishment of a real Federal Republic of Cyprus."

It added that the two island communities were destined to coexist side by side and that the new state was ready "for negotiations on an equal basis with the Greek Cypriot side for a peaceful and durable solution."

The announcement was welcomed by a crowd of two to three thousands Turkish Cypriots waiting early in the morning outside the Legislative Assembly building in the Turkish sector of the capital.

The Greek Cypriot side of the island was shocked to realize this might be the final step for the permanent partition of the island.

Turkey had cautioned against such unilateral action and said yesterday that it had been taken by surprise by the declaration.



Mr Heseltine, in a borrowed clean police shirt, is escorted from the building after his much heckled speech.

Cruise warheads arrive amid mounting anger

Nuclear warheads and further cruise missiles are believed to have arrived at the Greenham Common air force base yesterday, during a day of mounting and sometimes violent opposition to the deployment of the United States' weapons in Britain.

At Greenham Common, 141 people were arrested during emotional protests by women peace campaigners. More than 200 people were arrested during a demonstration outside the House of Commons.

Inside the Commons, amid heated exchanges, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Leader of the Opposition, called the Prime Minister a "lucky" of the United States, while Mrs Thatcher refused to say in what circumstances she would agree to the missiles being fired.

Meanwhile, red paint was thrown at Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, before he addressed a meeting of Conservative students at Manchester University. Student leaders deplored the incident, while criticising Mr Heseltine's visit.

Mr Heseltine was outside the students' union in Oxford Road, when he was confronted by a crowd of 200 waiting protesters. Someone in the crowd fired the red paint, which covered his face and hair.

Mr Heseltine looked shaken as detectives rushed him through the crowd into the building, where the paint was removed and Mr Heseltine borrowed a shirt from a police inspector. Outside, demonstrators jeered and shouted "Better red than dead, Michael".

Earlier 50 demonstrators had staged a "die in", bringing traffic to a halt. Ms Jo White, general secretary of the students' union, said that the union, along with CND and women's groups, did not agree with Mr Heseltine's visit but they did not intend to disrupt the meeting.

Inside the building there was further disruption and many anti-nuclear demonstrators were among the 1,000 audience. They interrupted and shouted at Mr Heseltine as he tried to deliver his speech.

Mr Heseltine shouted back: "To those who have tried to prevent this meeting taking place I say I am a representative of a government elected by the British people. You will not stop us or silence us with the rule of the mob. It is not your cause that suffers, it is yours."

Mr Heseltine was delayed by the crowds inside the building for more than half an hour, until more police arrived and he was able to leave by the side door.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Assault on last Arafat refuge

Syrian troops and Palestinian guerrillas launched what appeared to be their final assault on Mr Yassir Arafat's last refuge yesterday, making a tank attack on his only camp at Badkwa and spraying shellfire across the streets of Tripoli where Mr Arafat's men last night were desperately seeking shelter among the civilian population.

While Palestinian officers loyal to Mr Arafat repeatedly claimed that the offensive had been halted, Syrian and Palestinian heavy artillery bombarded Tripoli throughout the day, killing at least 13 people and wounding another 75 - most of them civilians - in fierce and apparently indiscriminate shellfire.

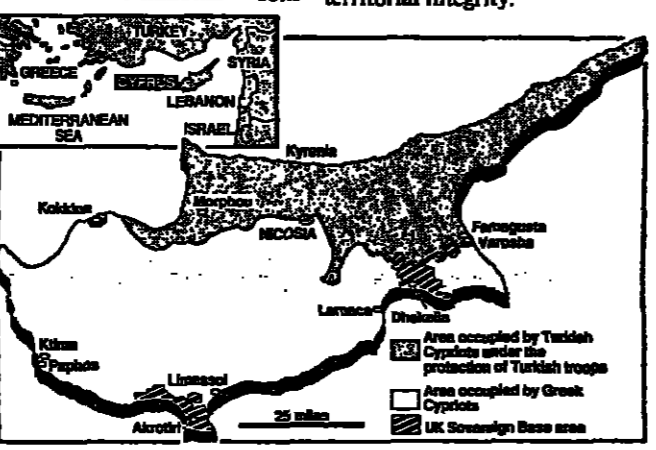
One of the city's main hospitals, the Muna, in the centre of Tripoli, was bracketed so closely by shells that the windows in every ward were blown in upon the patients while several rounds exploded beside the Islamic Hospital as wounded men huddled in the corridors.

When I arrived there during the afternoon, Palestinian guerrillas, doctors, surgeons and a group of crying, panic stricken women were sheltering in the lobby while a gunman staggered down the street outside, clutching a bandage to his face as blood splashed down his uniform. It was an almost unreal sight, a mirror image of the siege of west Beirut in the summer of last year but one in which the Palestinians had at last met their most dangerous enemy: themselves.

The Israeli siege of Beirut was a longer, ultimately more merciless affair but the streets of Tripoli yesterday possessed the same gaunt, deserted appearance that the Lebanese capital possessed in 1982, with frightened civilians in its alleyways and rubble across its streets. Mr Ashir Musri, the British-trained Director of the Islamic Hospital, put it all quite bleakly during the afternoon as he sat for safety in an underground laboratory. "I don't know what these people want," he said. "From time to time, the Palestinians have ceasefires and they break the ceasefires and start killing again. Our hospital is supposed to be neutral ground. There are red crosses on the walls. But we are being shelled."

One reason why the Islamic Hospital might have been under bombardment could be found 200 yards away where Palestinian guerrillas fighting for Mr Arafat had set up a gun position. Their artillery in the port had already drawn answering fire down upon the civilian blocks of flats in the area. It was the same old story of a guerrilla army retreating into the streets of a great city while their enemy

Continued on back page, col 3



Map of Cyprus showing the division between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.

S African minister resigns

Mr Fanie Botha, the South African Minister of Manpower and second only to the Prime Minister in seniority, yesterday resigned, saying that he had been forced to do so by "events which seriously question my position in the Cabinet".

In his letter of resignation to Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, he asked to be forgiven for "the error which obliges me to take these steps" but left unexplained what the error was.

In an equally cryptic reply accepting the resignation, the prime minister praised the Minister's "great service" to his party and country, and then said "it is just so happens that a single unpleasant event casts a shadow over the constructive contribution of a person's life."

The resignation comes after allegations in a Johannesburg Sunday newspaper of a legal dispute between Mr Fanie Botha and a company which claims that as Minister of Mines in 1979 he granted it two diamond mining concessions on the west coast which have never been handed over.

The company's lawyers are also understood to have sent a letter to the Minister last month calling up personal promissory notes to a value of 190,000 rands (£115,000) which it is alleged would now represent a debt of 250,000 rands with interest.

Mr Fanie Botha was a leading vertige or liberal, in the Cabinet and was the author of the labour reforms which led to the legal recognition of black trade unions.

Earlier this year, he was nearly defeated in his Soutpansberg constituency in Northern Transvaal by a candidate of the extreme right-wing Conservative Party, whom he had Quixotically challenged to a bye-election dual much to the alarm of the rest of the Government.

During the bruising bye-election campaign, his opponents accused him of having misused his powers as Minister of Water Affairs 10 years earlier to cause Parliament to write off debts incurred by an irrigation scheme in which he had a financial interest. He denied the allegation.

Britain deplores UDI by Denktas

The British Government made clear yesterday that it did not accept the validity of the declaration of independence by Turkish Cypriots.

Amid intense diplomatic activity after the proclamation in a radio broadcast by Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, deplored the action, saying in the Commons that it amounted to a declaration of secession and was incompatible with the 1960 treaty of guarantee.

Britain, he told MPs, recognized only one Republic of Cyprus. "That remains the position today. In our view this latest move cannot be seen as altering the status of the Turkish Cypriot community."

Sir Geoffrey said the Government would deeply regret it if, as seemed likely, the action provoked a breakdown of the inter-communal talks.

Before his Commons statement, Sir Geoffrey had instructed the ambassador in Ankara to urge the Turkish Government not to associate itself with the move.

The Prime Minister sent a message to President Evren of Turkey, asking him to help to secure a reversal of the declaration. Mrs Thatcher also had a 10-minute telephone conversation with President Kyprianou of Cyprus.

Sir Geoffrey made clear that, in line with British responsibilities as a guarantor power, he was proposing urgent consultations to both the Turkish and Greek governments, other interested governments and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

In reply to Mr Denis Healey, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, who backed the Government's position, he said: "The latest evidence suggests that the Turkish Government has been taken by surprise."

MacGregor urges tunnel for Severn

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board yesterday made an impassioned plea to the Government to give new encouragement to big capital projects and, at the same time, unveiled a new scheme for a toll tunnel under the river Severn.

Mr MacGregor, a leading advocate of a self-financing cross-Channel tunnel and road link, said: "I don't want the Government to help. I just don't want them to hinder."

As the country emerged from recession, infrastructure projects such as new roads, sewers and bridges created employment and industrial activity, he said at a debate on public investment and economic recovery, organized by The Times and Coopers & Lybrand.

It was disclosed at the end of last month that the towers of the Severn Bridge could collapse in certain circumstances. Business News, page 15. Debate report, page 16, 17

Dad's Army actor 'conks out'

By Rupert Morris John Le Mesurier, the actor who delighted millions in the BBC television series Dad's Army, died yesterday as he had lived with a gentle, irreverent humour.

His death announcement in The Times reads: "John Le Mesurier wishes it to be known that he conked out on November 13. He sadly misses family and friends."

The death announcement His wife, Joan, who was at his bedside at Ramsgate Hospital when he died at 7.45am, said he had always been amused by the language of obituary notices, in which people "passed on", or "slipped away peacefully".

Mr Le Mesurier, who was 71, "conked out" after a prolonged abdominal illness. His last words, perhaps addressed in part to the nursing staff, but also according to his friends, with an eye to posterity, were: "It's all been rather lovely."

John Le Mesurier, who was born in April 1912, started acting in 1938 and appeared in more than 100 films, and countless television series and plays.

From 1949 until a divorce in 1965, he was married to the comedienne Hattie Jacques. They had two sons, Robin and Kim. Miss Jacques died in 1980. He married his second wife, Joan, in 1966.

As well as his many cherished film roles, which included some of the great Ealing comedies of the 1950s, John Le Mesurier won the Best Television Actor award in 1971 for his portrayal of Kim Philby in the BBC play Trawler. Obituary, Page 14

First sighting of new Soviet cruiser



The Slava, a new class 12,000-ton Russian guided missile cruiser, sailing north-west of Scotland early yesterday. The Slava, accompanied by a Krivak destroyer, is heading south and expected to enter the Mediterranean. The Slava is armed with 16 long range surface-to-surface SS-N-22 missiles.

Advertisement for Barratt Timesharing, featuring a list of properties for sale and a 'QUESTION' section with answers.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Apps, Arts, Business, Court, Crossword, Diary, Law Report. Values: 2-4, 5-7, 20, 10, 15-20, 14, 28, 26, 11.

Table with 2 columns: Parliament, Property, Sale, Sport, TV & Radio, Theatres, etc, Weather. Values: 4, 25, 2, 24, 27, 27, 28.

Moderate TUC opinion gathers force against trade union Bill

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Moderate trade union opinion is gathering force against the Government's trade union Bill, it emerged yesterday on the eve of critical internal TUC discussions about links with the Labour Party.

Mr Alistair Graham, general secretary of the largest Civil Service union and a prominent figure in the "new mood of realism" movement in the TUC, told a conference of managers and trade unionists in London: "Such changes that are necessary can be achieved without this legislation."

The TUC's employment policy and organization committee meets this morning to determine what measures it can put forward to prevent Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, legislating to make individual members "contract in" rather than "contract out" of paying the political levy to the Labour Party.

Several proposals are under discussion, but they would all lead to a reduction in the number of trade unionists supporting the party financially.

In his speech to an Industrial Society conference yesterday, Mr Graham, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said: "At a time when the trade union movement is under stress, with high unemployment and falling membership, the participation of members in key decisions in unions is an important way of reinforcing the commitment to trade union membership."

He said he was in favour of change by self-regulation. "This Bill meets a political need for this Government, rather than any fundamental industrial need."

Mr Graham gave many recent examples of the Government's pulling back from introducing legislation, in particular over the Stock Exchange, where a deal was struck rather than referral to the Restrictive Practices Court.

He asked: "Why could a similar arrangement not have been struck with the TUC, particularly since there has been concrete evidence of what the press has called 'the new mood of realism' that members of the

general council like myself have built up support for?"

Mr Graham questioned the wisdom of introducing compulsory secret ballots for the election of trade union executive bodies.

He added: "Executive committees with a left-wing majority elected by membership ballot will have an increased sense of authority which could mean they press tough industrial and political policies more strongly than in the past."

Mr John Selwyn Gummer, Minister of State for Employment, clashed yesterday with Lord Scanlon, former president of the engineering union, when Mr Gummer was challenged to say that the trade union Bill would be the Government's last on the unions (the Press Association reports).

If agreement on matters such as the political levy and the right to strike in essential services could not be reached, the Government reserved the right to introduce further legislation, Mr Gummer said.

Eurocommunists rout paper's editors

By Rupert Morris

The editor and deputy editor of the *Morning Star*, the daily newspaper of the Communist Party of Great Britain, were voted off the party executive yesterday.

It was an unprecedented move in an increasingly bitter battle between the hard-line pro-Soviet faction at the paper, and the party's more liberal Eurocommunist leadership.

Delegates to the final session of the party's thirty eighth congress were urged yesterday to buy shares in the People's Press Printing Society, the cooperative which owns the paper. That another clear indication of the party leadership's determination to unseat the editor and his political allies.

Mr Tony Chater, the editor, enjoys the support of the society, and the only ways in which the party executive could get him replaced would be either to instruct the society's management committee to dismiss him, which they might

refuse to do, or mobilize support among shareholders to get him ousted at an extraordinary general meeting.

Mr Chater, his deputy, Mr David Whitfield, and the paper's industrial reporter, Mr Mick Costello, formerly the party's industrial organizer, failed to keep their seat on the 42-member executive list of candidates.

It would have been a surprise if they had been elected. None the less their defeat consolidates the Eurocommunist hold on the party in a significant way.

Today's *Morning Star* carries a defiant statement from Mr Chater, saying: "The *Morning Star* will continue to implement loyally the decisions of the annual meetings of the People's Press Printing Society. Accordingly, the *Star* will continue to project the ideas and principles of the Communist Party's programme. The *British Road to Socialism*."

Ministry men for cities

By David Walker

The Department of the Environment has appointed two senior civil servants to run regional offices in the East Midlands and Tyne-side in move certain to be seen by councils as anticipating further controls.

The move reverses the efforts made by the former Secretary of State, Mr Michael Heseltine, to cut the number of civil servants in the eight regional offices jointly acting for the department and the Department of Transport. The Newcastle upon Tyne office was downgraded

into a sub-office of Leeds in 1979.

The present Secretary of State, Mr Patrick Jenkin, has not only restored Newcastle upon Tyne by allocating an official of under-secretary rank, the third most senior Civil Service rank, but also elevated the East Midlands to full regional status by installing an under-secretary in Nottingham.

The decision is being represented as a result of a review of the tasks of the regional offices.

MP queries £1½m cost of bomb trial

From Tim Jones

An MP said last night that he intends to raise questions in the Commons after three men were acquitted in the Welsh bombing trial. After their trial, estimated to have cost £500,000, all three defendants said that the police had deliberately fabricated evidence and made up false confessions because of their republican backgrounds.

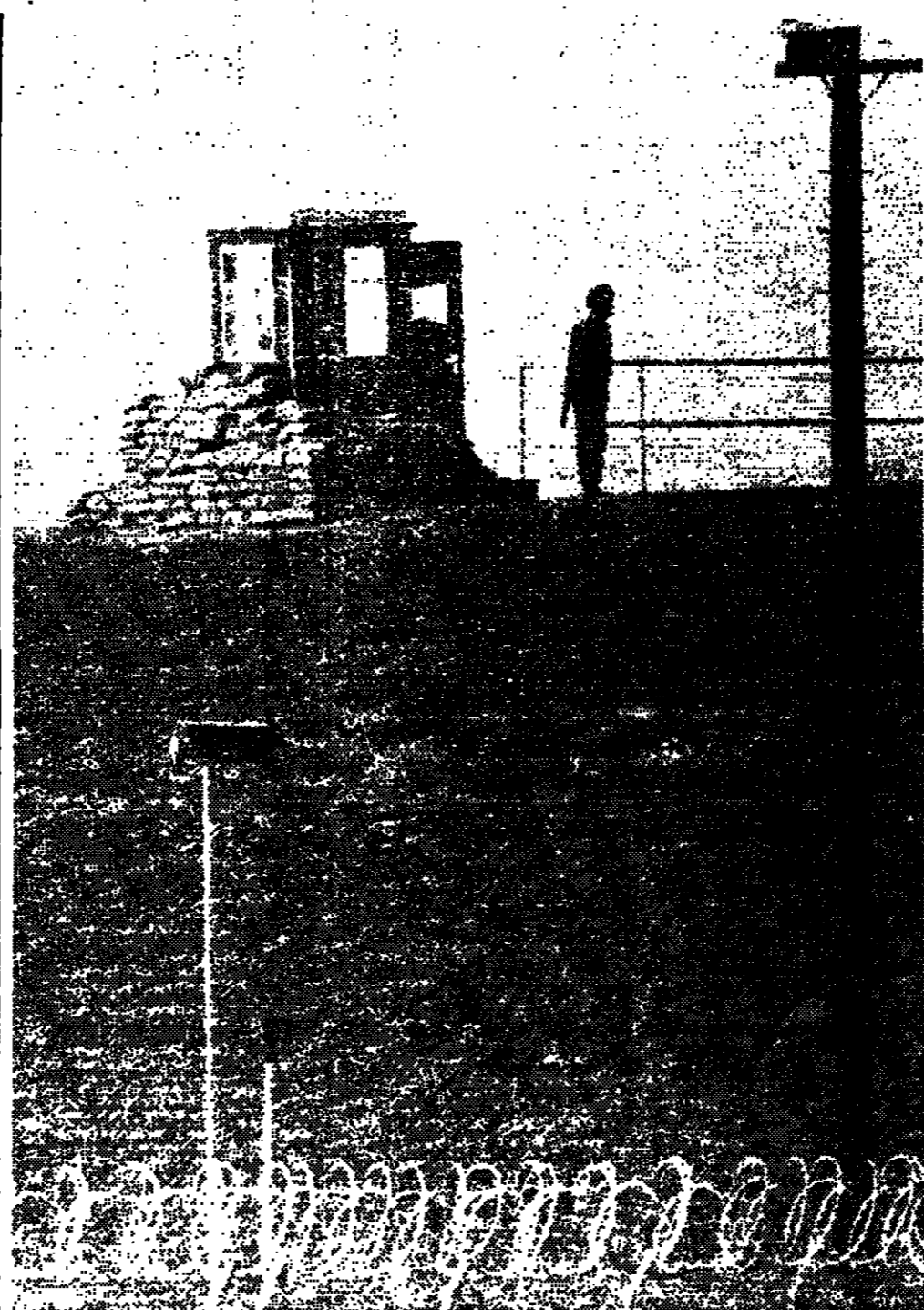
The MP, Mr Dafydd Thomas, said: "The trial has probably been the most expensive in Welsh legal history and I will be asking a series of questions in Parliament about the cost."

After being acquitted, Mr Adrian Stone, aged 25, of Caerphilly, Mid Glamorgan, who has spent six months in custody awaiting trial, said: "The law must be changed to put a time limit on how long someone can be detained like this. The case has been the best possible argument for the jury system, particularly when some judges wanted to abolish it to speed up justice."

Mr Stone and two other men, Mr Robert Griffiths, aged 31, and Mr David Burns, aged 25, were all cleared of conspiracy to cause damage and of individual explosives charges.

The prosecution had alleged that the defendants were members of the Workers' Army of the Welsh Republic, which had claimed responsibility for bombing attacks in England and Wales.

The jury found Brian Mostyn Rees, aged 30, a computer sales representative, of Lewisham, south-east London, not guilty of conspiring to cause an explosion, but guilty of possessing detonators.



An armed US Marine stands guard at the Greenham Common base yesterday after the missile warheads were flown in. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Anger as warheads arrive

Continued from page 1

Mr Richard Sassoon, of Manchester University Conservatives said they were disgusted by the protests, which were not perpetrated by CND but by student members of the Socialist Workers group. He said that CND was opposed to what had happened.

Mr Richard Weaver, of Manchester University CND, later added that the disruption

was regretted. He also blamed the Socialist Workers students and the Revolutionary Communist group.

Eight cruise warheads are believed to have arrived at the Greenham Common base yesterday amid the tightest security ever seen there. Hundreds of paratroopers surrounded eight packages as they were lifted from a Starliner plane.

An official spokesman refused to say whether the packages were the 270th warheads capable of a 200 kiloton explosion, 16 times the power of the Hiroshima bomb, but the security precautions highlighted their sensitivity.

Earlier a Galaxy transport plane landed and was immediately

ringed by troops as six crates, similar to those used to bring in the missiles on Monday, were unloaded and driven to the silos.

Mounted police from the Metropolitan Police force used their horses for crowd control for the first time at the base. They used them to try to force women out of the road, where they stood linking arms and singing peace songs in unison with others sitting immediately in front of the main gate to block vehicles leaving.

Some 200 demonstrators were arrested outside the Houses of Parliament last night after they had blocked the two gates at the Commons Members' entrance.

Minister attacks 'no charge' NHS

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Service Correspondent

The National Health Service cannot be subjected to some "great conservation order" in which nothing changes and changing needs go unmet, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said yesterday.

Speaking at an emergency conference in London of Community Health Councils, at which he was criticized over NHS spending and manpower cuts, Mr Clarke said that old facilities and redundant hospitals had to go to create resources elsewhere for the elderly, the

mentally ill and the handicapped, and to provide new facilities for under-provided areas in the suburbs of the cities and where the population was growing.

Mr Clarke was heckled with cries of "rubbish" and "preaching cuts in July" and greeted by a health council member from Liverpool, who said patients were having to wait for beds in the reception of the Royal Liverpool Hospital because the hospital was so full. Mr Clarke responded that

spending on the NHS has risen by 17.5 per cent above the retail price index since 1979.

To cries of protests Mr Clarke said that London had a surplus of hundreds of acute beds. Despite the Chancellor's spending cuts in July, he said, spending by hospital authorities as a whole remained the same as it was last year, although the redistribution programme meant some health authorities faced reductions to release funds for other areas.

EEC farm support levies should be tougher, report says

Urgent action to restrict EEC farm support to a level consistent with Community demand is recommended in a report published today by the Lords Select Committee on the European Communities.

Its favoured method is to enlarge and strengthen the system of so-called guarantee thresholds, whereby all production over a specified level would not only fail to qualify for support but would be subjected, in some cases, to penal levies.

The report suggests that the levy which the Commission has proposed on surplus dairy production "should begin to bite if pursued consistently over a period of years", but that it is not "sufficiently tough to meet the pressing problems of surplus and budgetary costs".

The commission's proposed penalty for cereal overproduction is not "sufficiently rigorous to bring about the reduction in acreage necessary to eliminate, or drastically reduce, the mounting surplus", it says.

The provision of an assured market for agricultural output through intervention buying and export refunds is a cornerstone of the intent in the Treaty of Rome to keep farmers' incomes in line with earnings elsewhere in the Community, the report observes.

"But because the Council of Ministers has for so many years failed to adopt a more prudent approach to pricing, which would have encouraged the discouragement of production and the surpluses within manageable bounds, the cost of operating the policy is now outstripping the growth of revenue", it says.

"Indeed it is hardly an exaggeration to say that the whole future of the common agricultural policy will be put in jeopardy if drastic measures are not taken now."

Supply Committee, eighth report of the House of Lords European Communities, Session 1982-83: HL 55 (Stationery Office, £10.55).

Separate dairy finance demand

Conservative critics of the European Community want dairy farming to be removed from the Community's price support system, and each member state left to finance its own nation's dairy sector as it wishes, subject to the approval of the commission (our Political Editor writes).

In proposals which it intends to urge upon ministers, the European Reform Group of Conservative backbench MPs points out that milk and milk products are the costliest part of the common agricultural policy.

It says that the removal of that spending would end the Community's cash crisis and, since of £2,155m spent on dairy farming in 1982 only £218m was spent in the United Kingdom, the change would alter the present budget imbalance in Britain's favour.

Trade union leaders say yesterday that they would seek total union support in preventing the import of LIFT and sterilized milk from the Community. The long-standing ban on imports is due to be lifted tomorrow, at the direction of the European Court, provided that the Commons assents to the Government's new regulations tonight.

New drive on car tax evasion

By Our Political Reporter

The Government is to step up its campaign of "blitzes" against car tax dodgers, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, made clear yesterday.

Her statement, coupled with the disclosure that prosecution of offenders will be 50 per cent higher this year than last, comes after the extensive publicity given to a report from the Comptroller and Auditor General last week revealing that more than a million excise duty offences went unpunished in 1982.

Mrs Chalker said in a parliamentary written reply that the number of reports followed up this year would be 62 per cent higher than last year's level and that recovery of back duty, fines, penalties and costs is expected to be some £13.5m, compared with £10.5m.

The Department of Transport has for the past two years, in cooperation with the police, been selecting given areas and announcing two weeks in advance that they are about to clamp down on dodgers. Drivers stopped in this period who have no valid excise licence are automatically prosecuted.

Atom waste lorry in M6 crash

By Our Political Reporter

A transporter carrying a nuclear waste flask from Sellafield, (Windscale) in Cumbria, collided yesterday with an articulated lorry on the M6 at Southwate, near Carlisle. It was on a journey between the nuclear reprocessing plant and Chapelcumbria power station in Dumfriesshire.

British Nuclear Fuels (BNF), which operates both plants, said the 50-ton flask, normally used to carry irradiated fuel, was empty.

BNF issued an assurance later about the safety of nuclear transporters.

The worst accident that could happen on a motorway is a lorry crash, that has happened, and the flask was not damaged at all. It is safe and that is what we have been saying all along," a spokesman said.

Radio Times union threat

By Our Political Reporter

The *Radio Times* could be shut down next week, according to Mr John Mitchell, secretary of the London branch of the printing union Sogat '82. He said that he would urge his executive next Monday to call a halt to its printing.

The British Printing and Communications Corporation, which prints 600,000 of the weekly's circulation in *Radio Times* at its Park Royal works, has decided to close part of the plant, with the loss of 400 jobs, after prolonged negotiations over productivity and redundancies.

Sex killing theory

By Our Political Reporter

A lecturer in law, Mr Michael Corkery, aged 36, whose body was found on an industrial estate in Northampton on Saturday, may have been the victim of a sexual killing, the police said yesterday.

The police were unable to confirm that Mr Corkery, who lived with his mother in Queen Anne Street, New Bradwell, Buckinghamshire, attended a professional meeting in Northampton on Friday evening.

Telecom defers dismissals date

By Our Political Reporter

British Telecom yesterday further extended a deadline for the threatened dismissal of 57 members of the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) who took action against the privatization of the state-owned company.

The management said a decision on their future would be taken "in the light of" the reconvened POEU national conference last week.

£30,000 fine for student protest

By Our Political Reporter

Students at Warwick University in Coventry have been fined £30,000 for violence during a visit two weeks ago to the campus by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

The penalty imposed by the University Senate removes 10 per cent from next year's grant to the Warwick students union.

MP's complaint against The Times

The Press Council rejected yesterday a complaint from Mr Ronald Brown, Labour MP for Edinburgh Leith, that *The Times* and four other daily newspapers should not have reported an incident when he was arrested for shouting at the Prime Minister before his trial.

Mr Brown, who was arrested in front of journalists and television cameras, was fined £50 for causing a breach of the peace.

But a complaint about a reference in *The Times* report to an earlier visit to Afghanistan, when he was photographed with two other MPs "in front of a Russian tank", was upheld. That was upheld.

The council also upheld a complaint from Mr Brown to a reference in the *Daily Star* claiming that he was standing among journalists, although 500 genuine anti-government demonstrators had been kept well away.

The Press Council's adjudication was.

It is not surprising that widespread publicity was given to the incident when Mr Ron Brown, the MP for Leith, shouted at protest at the Prime Minister on her visit to Glasgow and was detained by the police. His protest was made in front of police, demonstrators and television cameras and newspaper journalists who were covering the visit.

In the Press Council's view, Mr Brown no doubt intended to obtain publicity for his protest as well as to make it more difficult to make it directly to Mrs Thatcher.

There was a confused, and confusing, muddle. Not surprisingly, differing descriptions and interpretations of what happened were given by Mr Brown himself, the police, and the various journalists who were there. The Press Council has no reason to doubt the good faith of any of these subjective accounts.

Where they vary in detail it is not possible for the council to determine which should be preferred. The council does not attach significance to those variations, and it does not uphold any of the complaints against newspapers which are based on such variations.

What is more serious is the possibility that reports in newspapers circulating in Scotland might have

prejudged Mr Brown's trial for breach of the peace. The Lord Advocate decided not to take action for contempt and Mr Brown and his papers made the same misleading reference to Mr Brown's previously much-publicized visit to Afghanistan following the Soviet invasion.

The *Times* and the *Daily Mirror* described him as having been photographed then in front of a Russian or Soviet tank in Afghanistan. Readers were likely to infer that the tank was part of the Soviet army's current incursion into Afghanistan.

In fact, the tank was not in service but an historical one, made in the Soviet Union, and now on a plinth forming a national monument in Kabul commemorating an Afghan uprising in 1978.

The *Times* and the *Daily Mirror* should not have published their misleading reference to it but having done so, should have corrected it promptly. To this extent the complaints against *The Times* and the *Daily Mirror* are upheld.

In the Press Council's view it was not unreasonable for newspapers reporting the matter to recall well-known incidents from Mr Brown's public and political career but two news-

'Nissen Hut' homes must be preserved

By Craig Seton

A pair of concrete and corrugated iron houses, described as "monstrosities" by the local council and as damp, cold, and uncomfortable by their tenants, have been listed as being of special architectural and historic interest and are to be preserved.

The semi-detached, two-storey houses, built in 1925 in the style of the First World War Nissen Huts, now appear on the Department of the Environment's grade two list—a decision that has dismayed officials in Yeovil, Somerset.

Mr Thomas Sidley, chairman of the Yeovil district council housing committee said yesterday: "We thought the listing was a practical joke. This building is no more than a big Nissen Hut and we decided it should be pulled

Sale room

By Huon Mattalieu

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In London yesterday, the Christie's sale of English watercolours made a total of £606,253, with only 4 per cent bought in. The three most expensive lots were all by Turner, and all went to London dealers.

Agnew paid £91,800 for a view of the Valley of the Washburn, painted in about 1817 for Turner's patron, Walter Fawkes, of Farnley Hall, in Yorkshire (estimate £70,000 to £80,000), and a striking view of Winchelsea, in Sussex, with soldiers went to Martyn Gregory for £45,360 (estimate

Turner water colours go to dealers

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Two days of sales of Chinese ceramics, jades, and works of art held by Sotheby's in Hongkong ended yesterday with a total of HK\$21,039,370 (£1,804,406) and 19 per cent bought in.

A local dealer, Robert Chang, paid a record price for any work in jade, HK\$2,750,000 (£237,070) for a pair of lavishly carved emerald-green imperial

Arc of triumph: houses listed for presentation

By Our Political Reporter

The building was submitted for listing by Mr Russell Lilford, Somerset's principal planning officer responsible for historic building work. Yesterday he was surprised by the fuss.

The building was put up experimentally by a Yeovil firm of architects

Down or done up properly. We will appeal and hope the listing can be lifted.

Mr and Mrs Michael Martell have lived in one of the houses for six years and want to move. Mrs Martell said: "It is quite amazing. Why should anybody want to preserve such a place?"

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Turner water colours go to dealers

By Huon Mattalieu

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jadeite belt-hooks (estimate HK\$300,000 to HK\$400,000).

Controversy surrounds one of the lots in a sale of Dutch and German Drawings held by Sotheby's in Amsterdam yesterday. It was a brown ink study of a woman with an old man and an infant, and it was catalogued as being by Rembrandt.

It sold to an American collector for 41,760 Gld (£9,078) against an estimate of 10,000 to 15,000 Gld. On April 12 this year, in a Christie's sale in London, it was catalogued only as "attributed to Rembrandt"; and made £918. The Amsterdam sale made a total of 1,166,113 Gld (£253,503), with 7 per cent bought in.

In Geneva, Phillips sold jewels to a total of 1,181,560 Sw fr (£160,240) with 35 per cent bought in.

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Girls School Association

Education system fails to allow girls to reach potential, Joseph says

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Harrogate. Girls receive an inadequate education because they are not reaching their potential at school and are therefore cut off from certain job opportunities...

Grammars backed by parents

Strong support for the old grammar and secondary modern system of schooling is disclosed in a public opinion poll conducted by Gallop to coincide with a television programme tonight on education standards.

The survey, based on a sample of 957 people, found that 54 per cent thought children were likely to get the best all-round education in grammar and secondary modern schools...

Sixth formers taking the Pill 'in danger'

Coeducational boarding schools which recommend that sixth-form girls should take the contraceptive pill are exposing them to physical and psychological danger, according to Mrs Pauline Mathias, president of the association.



Mathias: 'Girls face risk of cancer'.

She refused to name the independent schools she knows that recommend the Pill to their girls, but Mrs Mathias, headmistress of More House School in London, said that girls of 16 should not be encouraged to take it because they are emotionally immature...

Some cases it restricted the range of subjects offered to them. Nor did it enable boys and girls to make better adult relationships.



Diplomatic arrival: Mr Charles Price, the new American Ambassador, arriving at Heathrow airport yesterday with his wife Carol and two of his five children, Melissa and Charles. Mr Price, formerly Ambassador to Belgium, succeeds Mr John Lovis (Photographs: Bill Wanhurst).



A breakfast toast to a robust new Beaujolais

By Robin Young. In the wine trade's annual festival of liquid logistics, more than five million bottles of Beaujolais Nouveau came rushing from France to Britain in time for breakfast yesterday.

Cinema firm plans larger film output

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent. Plans to produce five new British feature films each year were unveiled yesterday by Thorn EMI as the company expressed confidence about the future of the cinema industry.

Solicitors study plan to advertise

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent. The abolition by the Lord Chancellor in 1973 of a scale of charges for conveyancing has resulted in price competition, the society says.

Chemists fight threat 'to cut profit'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent. Patients with prescriptions will have to wait for their drugs and fewer chemists' shops will open late if the Government approves a threatened cut in pharmacists' profits, high street chemists said yesterday.

Banks' return means easier home loans

By Peter Wilson-Smith. House-buyers should find it easier to arrange a mortgage in the new year with the return of the big banks to the mortgage market.

'Innocent' Broadmoor man free

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent. Mr John Walters, who was jailed for four years in 1973 for a crime he continues to deny, was released from Broadmoor special hospital yesterday, after more than 10 years' detention.



Mr John Walters yesterday: Free, and maintaining his innocence (Photograph: Orde Eliason).

Throughout his confinement Mr Walters has maintained that he was innocent of the charge of sexual assault on a woman in a London suburban train for which he originally received a four-year sentence.

Summarized in the first of the latest series of programmes, he watched it in Broadmoor on October 19.

Released 'with no strings attached', he would be seeing voluntarily a psychiatrist and probation officer, to help him to re-adjust to the outside world.

Man wins right to be paid in cash

Mr Trevor Johnson, a Yorkshire service engineer, has finally won a dispute with his employers over his insistence on being paid weekly in cash instead of by monthly cheque.

The trouble started when Hobart Manufacturing, of Leeds, food machinery makers, decided to switch from a weekly wage packet to computerized monthly pay cheques.

Core assets to remain frozen

The High Court refused yesterday to free £4m on the mainland assets of Stype Investments (Jersey), the settlement set up by Sir Charles Clore shortly before his death in July, 1979.

Mr Justice Vinelott dismissed an application by Stype to vary the terms of an asset-freezing order to allow it to comply with a High Court judgement that it must pay £4m to the Official Solicitor, due under a mortgage agreement. Stype's application was opposed by the Inland Revenue.

Cooperative sold

Unicorn Shirts, of Taunton, Somerset, a shirt factory set up as a workers' cooperative by the Transport and General Workers' Union two years ago, has been sold to a Manchester shirt manufacturer for about £70,000.

Centenary candle

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will light the first of a worldwide chain of candles tomorrow at the start of celebrations for next year's centenary of Toynbee Hall, the voluntary social service settlement in east London.

Helen Smith inquest may cost £100,000

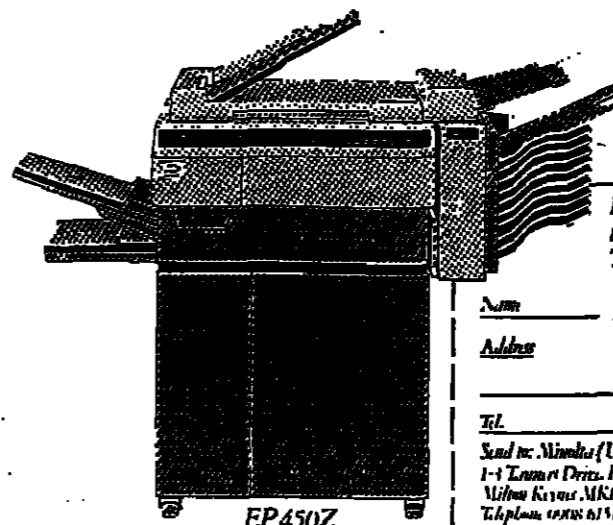
The final bill for the Helen Smith inquest could be almost £100,000, Mr John Gunnell, the leader of West Yorkshire County Council said yesterday. That includes an estimated £48,346 in fees for Sir David Napley and Mr Harold Fowler, the solicitors.

Coroner's warning over 'human drug capsule'

Mr Ian Fuller, aged 22, a labourer, who smuggled heroin in his stomach, died in agony, Battersee Coroner's Court in south London was told yesterday. Some of the hundreds of capsules he swallowed at the end of a holiday in India burst when he got home after the flight to Britain.

Adventure, the coroner, Dr Paul Knapman said: "If you are a courier of a drug of death your intimate body search may be by a pathologist in a mortuary. This is a warning to those people."

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PARLIAMENT November 15 1983

Cruise missiles coming in over long period

DEFENCE

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, in an angry clash in the Commons over the arrival of cruise missiles...

Britain to have talks with allies after Turkish declaration

CYPRUS

The British Government deplored the action by the Turkish community in Cyprus this morning in making what amounted to a declaration of secession...

LAW AND ORDER

The burgeoning of video nasties was a deeply disturbing phenomenon and a society which genuinely wanted to curb the incidence of violent crime must confront this frightening influence for evil...

Government and judges have not gone soft on crime

LAW AND ORDER

The judgement of the many prejudiced by the foolish behaviour of the law, in this or any other sphere, but there is a relationship between alcoholism and violence...

LAW AND ORDER

Legitimate enjoyment of the many prejudiced by the foolish behaviour of the law, in this or any other sphere, but there is a relationship between alcoholism and violence...



Runcie: Attack on TV mayhem and murder.

Individual murderers and violent criminals could change their attitude with maturity, genuine remorse and the influence of prison staff and families and friends.

Griffiths to join new health board

HEALTH SERVICE

The Griffiths report, and Mr Roy Griffiths himself, was entirely dedicated to trying to improve the National Health Service...

Cuts have been carefully worked out

Mr Fowler: There are great differences between running a business and the health service, but both are trying to provide the best possible service to the public at the lowest cost.

Waiting lists for hospitals coming down

Hospital waiting lists throughout the country were coming down, Mr John Patten, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said.

Protecting young people at work

Mr David Nellist (Coventry South East, Lab) was given leave under the 10-minute rule procedure to introduce the Working Conditions of Government Trainees Bill.

Further massive injection of funds into NCB

COAL INDUSTRY

All MPs, including those with coal-mining constituencies, would feel concern about the dramatically adverse features of the finances of the National Coal Board reflected by the necessity for the Coal Industry Bill.

MP's watery protest

Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, who is a trained diver, swam from Chelsea Bridge to Westminster yesterday clad in a frogman's suit to protest at the Government's dumping of nuclear waste at sea.

Sutcliffe bankruptcy delayed

Moves to make Peter Sutcliffe, the "Yorkshire Ripper", bankrupt have been delayed. Three women owed £25,000 in damages awarded against the jailed mass murderer were due to be represented at a creditors' meeting in Bradford, West Yorkshire, yesterday, but proceedings were delayed for a week when only one of them, Miss Moore, was present.

Actor remanded

Leslie Crowther, aged 50, the actor of Temple Court, Corston Bath, arrested on Monday night in London for an alleged drink driving offence, was remanded on unconditional bail until November 29 at Bow Street Magistrates Court yesterday.

Advertisement for 'The other side of the micro' featuring 'Wireless World' magazine. It discusses microcomputers and their applications in various fields.

Advertisement for the Cable television Bill, highlighting new powers of control. It discusses the expansion of cable television and the role of the Cable Television Authority.

Advertisement for 'Rivalry discuss' featuring a photograph of a man and text about a public discussion or event.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page: 'مكتبة من الأصل'.

Geneva missile talks limp along for 35 minutes despite cruise deployment



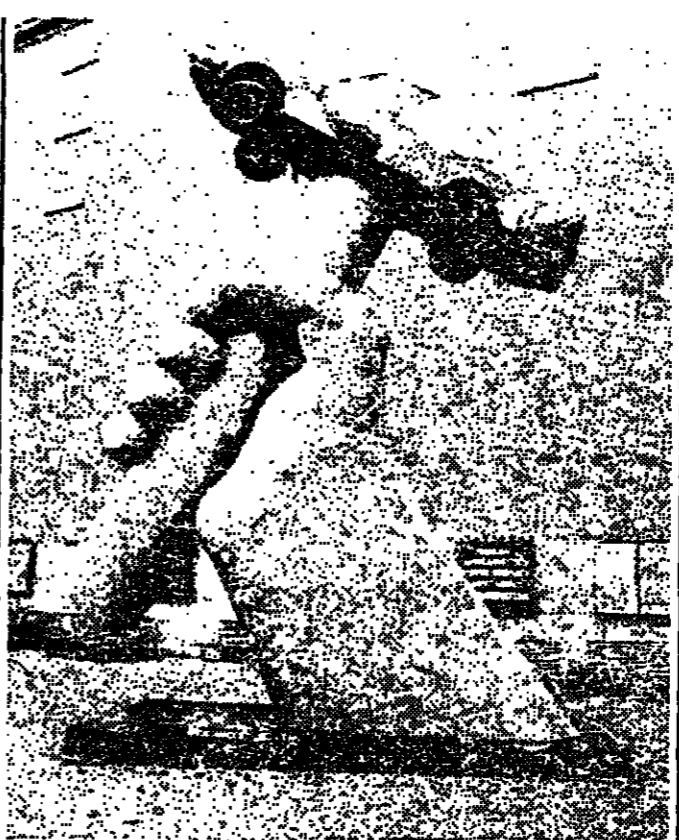
In and out: Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, the Soviet delegate, arriving for yesterday's talks in Geneva.

The US Soviet negotiations on limiting intermediate range nuclear missiles in Europe are still limping along - just - despite the arrival of the cruise missiles at Greenham Common. A record, in the negative sense, was established yesterday when Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky, the Soviet delegate, emerged from the US disarmament mission offices after just 35 minutes, confronting the cameras with a cryptic: "I am under an agreement not to talk" - an agreement observed to the letter by his US opposite number, Mr Paul Nitze when he finally left the office. Reports that the Russians had lived up to expectations by walking out were almost immediately overtaken, however, by US officials intimating that the two delegations were scheduled to meet, as usual, at the Soviet diplomatic mission on Thursday. While M Kvitsinsky apparently conveyed Moscow's rejection of the latest US proposal for a maximum 420 warheads each, there has been no indication whether this was a qualified refusal. Soviet sources have made clear that it is deployment of Pershing 2s that they object to the most, meaning that the arrival of the first Pershings, expected in West Germany on

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Tuesday, could mean the end, or suspension, of both INF and Start talks until the superpowers are reconvinced of mutual interest in restraints on nuclear missiles of all kinds, perhaps in one set of negotiations covering the entire panoply. In the meantime, despite the onset of winter, the indefatigable "peace camp" campaigners, in flimsy tents just off the Avenue de la Paix, keep up their endeavour, pushing white paper peace doves under car screen wipers. ● STRASBOURG: The European Parliament yesterday prepared to vote convincingly in favour of deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles with a debate which showed how passionate and fragmented the nuclear disarmament lobby in Europe has become (Jan Murray writes). It was a debate coloured by parliamentary abuse directed at Mr Yiannis Haralambopoulos, the Greek Foreign Minister, who was in Strasbourg in his role as current president of the EEC's Council of Ministers. The fact that the debate took place at all underlined how far the Parliament of the Economic Community has moved towards embracing defence as being properly part of its competence. Last month it voted a report calling for a European policy on

arms construction and sales. This month, with scarcely a murmur of dissent, it has placed the question of missile deployment very near the top of its agenda. This brought the Greek Foreign Minister into the nuclear firing line. His Government has made no secret of its opposition to deployment and as president of the Council of Ministers he has sought in the past to force member-states to consider calling for a six-month freeze on deployment in order to keep the Soviet Union at the Geneva negotiating table. But having been ruled out of order on this by his peers when he chaired an EEC political cooperation meeting in Athens in September, Mr Haralambopoulos refused to be drawn into the parliamentary debate yesterday. ● MELBOURNE: About 200 women yesterday broke down the front gates of the joint Australian-United States secret communications monitoring base at Pine Gap near Alice Springs to draw attention to the arrival in Britain of the American cruise missiles (Tony Dubois writes). The women drew a cardboard model of a cruise missile over the fence of the base where they were immediately arrested by federal police.



Under the hammer: This 15ft "Thor's hammer", by Bengt Lindstrom, is part of an exhibition of Swedish art on show in Stockholm.

Uproar at 'Gestapo tactics' of deportation

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Uproar has broken out in Hanover over the way a seriously ill Turkish woman and her six children were taken at 6am by a police raid, ordered to pack their bags and immediately bundled on to an aircraft to Istanbul. Critics say the deportation was reminiscent of Gestapo tactics. The police broke into the flat through a cellar window and gave the startled family only minutes to pack. The father, a Kurd who had applied in 1979 for political asylum in Germany on the grounds of religious persecution in Turkey, was not at home at the time. The mother collapsed and was taken to hospital and the children were deported without her. The police action came only hours after the deportation decision, taken after the courts had closed at the weekend. It applied only to the mother and her eldest son, who is deaf and dumb. The attempt to limit the right of asylum has become a sensitive topic here after a young Turk committed suicide during a court hearing in Berlin in August, and a visit here by Mr Poul Hartling, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, was cancelled after an angry exchange over German asylum laws with Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Interior Minister.

High and dry on Danube

From Our Correspondent, Vienna

Shipping came to a halt on the Danube yesterday when the water level fell below the 27in mark. The long, dry autumn has left the river unnavigable. In Hungary seven ships are stranded. Last year, the Danube carried more than 7.6 million tonnes of cargo, some 400,000 tonnes of which was Russian. Austria also faces an acute power shortage. None of the hydroelectric power stations on the Danube is running at more than a quarter strength.

Gdansk protest at priest's custody

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

An impromptu demonstration of some hundred Gdansk parishioners was provoked yesterday by the official interrogation of their priest, father Henryk Jankowski, a friend of Mr Lech Walesa and an outspoken champion of the banned Solidarity organization. When the priest, who is accused of injecting anti-government criticism into his sermons, emerged from the Gdansk prosecutor's office he was surrounded by several hundred of his supporters. After presenting him with flowers, they marched to St Brigid's church, near the shipyard gates. "Write the truth", they chanted when passing the local newspaper offices on their way. The police who had surrounded the office - and who had detained briefly several dozen Western reporters as well as a few demonstrators - did not intervene violently and allowed the protest to run its course. In his church, Father Jankowski told his parishioners that he had denied all the charges saying that they were ill-founded. "I have been doing nothing outside my priestly duties", he said. "I have not been stirring up unrest". The official case is that demonstrations have often occurred after his sermons and that he has been using them to spread "false information." This is the sharpest action to be taken against radical priests in Poland although at least one other young priest in Warsaw is being investigated with a view to framing charges against him. Father Jankowski said that the episcopate would be informed of the actual course of his interrogations, although the bishops already knew much about his case. On Sunday, workers held a low-key protest in which they laid wreaths to the memory of workers injured or arrested in the 1976 price rise disturbances at the Ursus tractor factory in Warsaw.

Tour firms grumble at Lisbon tax

From Our Correspondent, Lisbon

Representatives from 18 of Britain's leading tour operators met Senhor Alvaro Barreto, Portugal's Minister of Commerce and Tourism, in Lisbon to lodge a complaint against the 1,000 Escudo (£3.50) exit tax recently levied on all tourists leaving Portugal. The tour operators, who under British law are unable to pass the tax on to their customers, claim it will cost them nearly £500,000 by the end of the year. They are asking the Portuguese Government to reimburse them. Senhor Barreto assured the tour operators that the exit tax will be taken off by the end of December, as planned. It was an emergency measure to help cover this year's budget deficit. Senhor Barreto did not promise to refund the taxes paid by the British tour operators, but did tell them that the problem would be studied and an answer given by the end of the month.

Germans seize computer

New York (AP) - West German authorities seized a sophisticated computer made in the United States seven minutes before it was to leave for the Soviet Union via Sweden, according to Officials here. Mr Michael Kaufman, New York spokesman for the US customs service, said that the shipment was stopped in Hamburg on Friday. US customs officials in West Germany told the Bonn Government about the planned shipment after receiving word that the Digital Equipment Corporation's mini-computer would be smuggled into the Soviet Union. The Commerce Department banned the computer's shipment to Eastern block countries to prevent its use for military purposes, Mr Kaufman said. Mr William Green, deputy assistant commissioner of the customs service, told The New York Times the Vax 11-782 computer could be used "for missile guidance or something like that", and for "keeping track of troops and weapons".

Rival Indian meetings discuss Botha offer

From Michael Horasby, Johannesburg

A split in South Africa's 85,000-strong Indian community over whether to cooperate with the new constitution approved by the country's 4,600,000 whites in a referendum earlier this month was exposed at rival political meetings in Durban. Most of South Africa's Indians live in Natal, of which Durban is the biggest city. In Pretoria, leaders of three mixed-race (Coloured) political parties favourably disposed to the new constitution met Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Development. The leaders of the two biggest parties said that they would like a referendum for Coloureds as well, but that they would leave the final decision to party congresses at the end of December and in early January. Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, addressed between 2,000 and 3,000 Indians in Durban's City Hall on Monday, and urged them not to "go up a cul-de-sac" by rejecting the constitution. The Prime Minister was upstaged, however, a few hours later by an even larger gathering in Durban organized by Indians opposed to the new constitution, which provides for a segregated, three-chamber Parliament for whites, Indians and the 2.7 million coloureds, but excludes the 21 million black Africans.

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Turkish Cypriots declare UDI: Climax to a process begun in 1975

Ankara gives grudging recognition to the Denktas republic

From Rasit Gardlek, Ankara

Turkey yesterday recognized the newly-founded "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus", making clear, however, that its recognition was grudging.

After a meeting of the ruling National Security Council convened by President Evren, Mr Ilter Turkmen, the Foreign Minister, disclosed Turkey's decision at a press conference.

He emphasized that Turkey had always favoured settlement through intercommunal talks "without arriving at the present state of affairs", but absolved the Turkish Cypriot community from any blame for the lack of results over the past nine years.

Mr Turkmen said that in recognizing the new state, which replaces the "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus", founded in 1975, Ankara had taken into consideration the assurances that the "independence does not necessarily mean that the island will remain divided forever and that they are determined not to unite with any state unless it be in a federation with the Greek Cypriots" and their desire to continue the negotiations under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General.

He said further assurances for a non-aligned policy and the continued validity of the 1960 treaties of establishment, guarantee and alliance, had also influenced Turkey's decision.

"We must now turn our attention to the search for a peaceful settlement. We hope that all concerned governments

will contribute to efforts in that direction. The adoption of a negative attitude towards the newly-established republic will only serve to eliminate the possibilities of agreement.

"Turkey will continue as before to support the good-offices mission of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. We wish a happy future to our Cypriot Brothers."

In reply to a question about possible adverse attitudes in the West and at international forums, Mr Turkmen said independence was declared not by Turkey but by the Turkish Cypriots, so Turkey should not be the recipient of such attitudes.

In reply to another question, he said he did not think the Greek Cypriots would declare a union with Greece in reaction to the Turkish move, but nevertheless called on Greece to act with prudence and common sense.

He confirmed that the Greek Ambassador here, Mr Sotiris Constantopoulos, had requested clarification of Turkey's stand and was told of its decision.

Asked whether the new state had sought guarantees from Turkey for its security, Mr Turkmen said the 1960 guarantee treaty was still in force.

Reminded of the British Government's call to the other two guarantor powers - Turkey and Greece - for urgent consultations, under the terms of the treaty, he replied that his

government would evaluate the call.

As for Britain's refusal to recognize the new republic, Mr Turkmen said it would not affect Turkey's policies in any way. Mr Robert Russell, the British Ambassador, had earlier given Britain's views to Turkish Foreign Ministry officials.

Following the announcement of the recognition, President Evren summoned the leaders of the three parties represented in the newly-elected civilian parliament, to brief them on the developments, while the Council of Ministers went into session.

The declaration of independence, which caught the Ankara Government by complete surprise, presents Turkey's Prime Minister-designate, Mr Turgut Ozal, with a foreign policy crisis with potential effects on his economic policies as well, since he had been counting on Western support for the market-oriented economy he envisages.

WASHINGTON: The United States said yesterday it had received the news with "surprise and dismay" (Mehsin Ali writes).

A State Department statement said: "We have consistently opposed a unilateral declaration of independence by the Turkish Cypriot community, believing it would not be helpful to the process of finding a final negotiated settlement to the Cyprus problem."

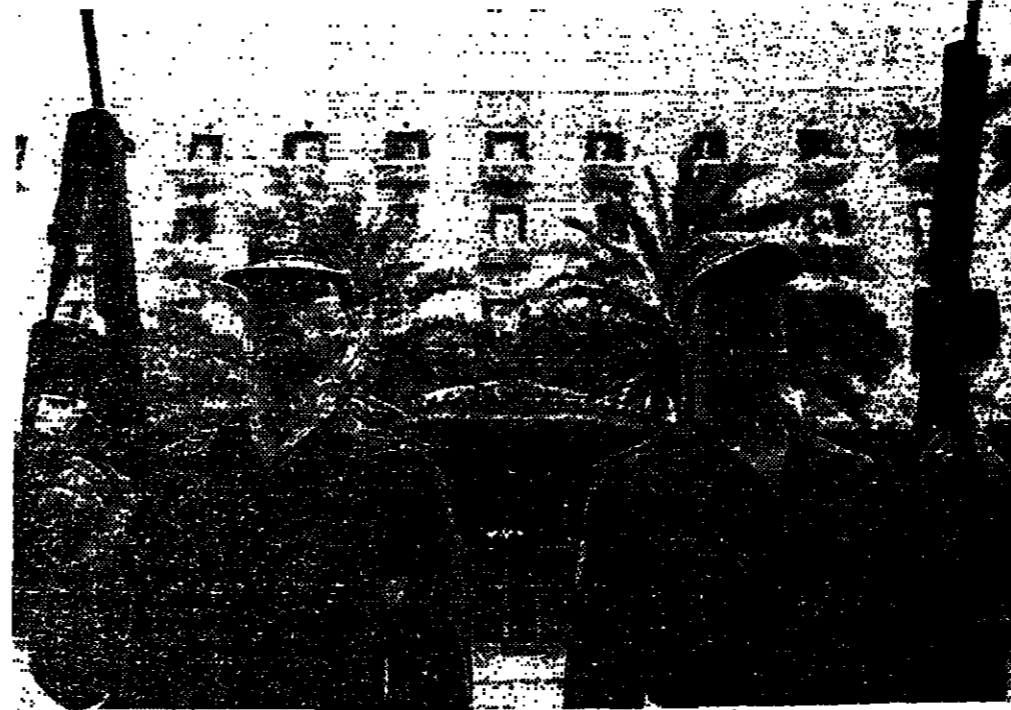
The statement urged the Turkish Cypriot community to reconsider its action.

NEW YORK: The UN Security Council was holding urgent consultations yesterday (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes). Regret over the move was voiced by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the Secretary-General, who appealed to all parties to exercise the utmost restraint from any action that may further aggravate the situation.

The Security Council consultations were private, at the request of the governments of Cyprus and Britain. An open meeting of the council is expected today.

Members of the council were awaiting the arrival of Mr George Iacovou, the Foreign Minister of Cyprus, who was expected to open the debate.

The road to UDI, page 12
Leading article, page 13



Dividing line: The Ledra Palace Hotel in Nicosia guarded by UN troops. It is inside the buffer zone dividing Turkish north from Greek south.



Rivals: Mr Denktas (left), Turkish Cypriot leader, and President Kyprianos.

A life-long goal achieved

Ostensibly, the Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence is intended to "facilitate the establishment of a genuine federation" between Greek and Turkish Cypriots, and would not have been necessary if the Greek Cypriots had been more forthcoming in negotiations to establish a federation.

But many observers believe it is what Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, has really been aiming for almost throughout his life.

He was born in 1924, and through the British Council gained a scholarship to read law at Lincoln's Inn in London between 1944 and 1947.

Returning to Cyprus, he practised as a lawyer.

He seems to have been hured into politics by Dr Fazil Kucuk, whom Mr Denktas was

ultimately to displace as leader of the Turkish Cypriots.

In 1964 when the Greek Cypriot campaign for union with Greece was at its height, Mr Denktas went to New York to address the Security Council, but was not then allowed to return to Cyprus. Until 1967 he remained in exile in Turkey, and when on October 31 of that year he returned to Cyprus illegally, he was immediately apprehended and detained for a few days.

The following year he was allowed officially to go back to Cyprus. In 1973 he was elected to be Vice-President of the Republic of Cyprus, and following the Turkish invasion in 1974 he was elected President of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

Coexistence pledge to Greek Cypriots

Nicosia (Reuters) - The following are extracts from yesterday's proclamation of an independent republic by the Turkish-Cypriot leadership in northern Cyprus.

We hereby declare before the world and before history the establishment of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as an independent state.

On this historic day, we extend once again our hand in peace and friendship to the Greek-Cypriot people. The two peoples of the island are destined to coexist, side by side.

We can, and must, find peaceful, just and durable solutions to all our differences through negotiations on

the basis of equality.

The proclamation of the new state will not hinder, but facilitate the establishment of a genuine federation. The new republic will not unite with any other state. The new state will continue to adhere to the treaties of establishment, guarantee and alliance.

The good offices of the UN Secretary-General and negotiations must continue. On matters which can be resolved in the short term, immediate measures of good will must be taken.

The new state will be non-aligned. It shall not join any military block. It shall attach the greatest importance to the preservation of peace, stability and the balance of power in the region.

US officer shot dead in Athens

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A naval captain detached to the US military aid mission to Greece and his Greek driver were shot and killed by two terrorists as they drove into Athens early yesterday.

The police said that Captain George Tsantes, who was 53, died instantly after being shot four times with a .45 calibre pistol by the pillar rider of a motor scooter which drew alongside his car when it stopped at the traffic lights.

The gunman then shot the driver three times before the motor scooter disappeared in the heavy morning traffic in the northern suburbs of Athens. The driver died in surgery later.

According to the American Embassy, Captain Tsantes, a New Yorker of Greek ancestry and a father of three, took up his Athens post eight months ago as chief of the naval section of the Joint US Military Aid Group to Greece that advises the Greek armed forces on training and military procurements.

A Greek spokesman said that the Government condemned



Athens alert: Police guarding the car in which Captain Tsantes was shot dead.

unequivocally such acts of violence which can "only serve unlawful and suspect interests".

Mr Andreas Papanicolaou, the Prime Minister, reassured Mr Montague Stearns, the US Ambassador that measures were being taken to apprehend the

culprits and "punish them in an exemplary manner".

Nine years ago, another American official, Mr Richard Welsh, the Central Intelligence Agency station chief in Athens, was shot dead with a .45 pistol. The Americans in Greece

have recently been nervous after the suicide-bomb explosion in Beirut which killed 239 US marines. After orders from US headquarters in Europe, security precautions were tightened at all American military installations.

Grenada interim council sworn in

Members of the Grenadian interim Government, swearing allegiance to the Crown, took the oath of office yesterday and immediately pledged that naming a date for free elections would take top priority.

Six of the nine members of the Government - officially described as the advisory council - appointed by Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor General, were at the brief formal ceremony in the living room of Sir Paul's official mansion overlooking St George's.

The others, including Mr Alistair McIntyre, its chairman,

are out of the country and will be sworn in next week.

In the meantime the council is headed by Mr Nicholas Braithwaite who said the body would not delay by even a day the time when elections could be held. "I recognize that because we have not been elected by the people there are likely to be doubts, suspicions and fears about how we will perform."

"I ask the people of Grenada to appreciate the special circumstances. We are guided by one consideration in accepting this appointment: our interest in the welfare of the people of

Grenada and Carriacou", the Grenadian-owned island 30 miles to the south.

The six members held their first meeting yesterday, a few hours after the swearing-in ceremony. On one point they already seem agreed: the decision to expel 30 foreign nationals, deemed by Sir Paul to be potential security risks to the Government. They will leave today after an "invitation" from Sir Paul to go.

Mr Braithwaite described them as "actively involved in activities in which they should not have been involved."

Castro onslaught on Reagan as Havana mourns

Havana (AFP) President Castro, in a speech over the bodies of 24 Cubans killed in Grenada, said that mankind was threatened by nuclear warfare because of President Reagan's "rash and fascist" policies.

"The bells which toll today for Grenada could toll tomorrow for the whole world."

However, Dr Castro's 90-minute address on Monday was mostly moderate.

Dr Castro said Washington had lied 19 times during the Grenadian intervention.

Syria accused of killing detainees

By Rodney Cowton

Syrian security forces are accused of systematic violations of human rights, including torture and political killings, by a report published today by Amnesty International.

It cites evidence that thousands of people have been harassed and wrongfully detained without right of appeal and in some cases tortured or killed by security forces.

Those arrested may be held without charge or trial for years. Amnesty International says that it has been working this year for the release of 177 people held in preventive detention for more than 12 years and another 300 held for between two and nine years.

The report cites cases of relatives being held hostage

while security forces sought political suspects. In one case three relatives were allegedly held in detention for nine years.

Amnesty recommends that Syria should enforce legislation which requires the production of arrest warrants and provides for appeal machinery against wrongful arrest.

It also recommends that the Syrian Government should consider revoking all provisions for the preventive detention of political prisoners, and until then the names of people arrested or released should be published regularly.

A report from Amnesty International to the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, available from Amnesty International, British Section, 5, Roberts Place, London, E.C.1. £2 plus 40p postage

OAS stunned by chief's resignation

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Señor Alejandro Orfila, a veteran Argentine diplomat, is resigning as Secretary-General of the Organization of American States. He made the surprise announcement at the opening session here of the organization's general assembly.

Señor Orfila said he wanted to smooth the way for his successor. He believes the OAS has not taken sufficient political advantage of the post of secretary-general and thinks its functions should be similar to those of the UN secretary-general.

In Señor Orfila's view, the OAS has too often been at the

periphery of major events in the Western Hemisphere, including, for example, US intervention in Grenada.

During its week-long meeting the OAS will concentrate on tensions in Central America and discuss Grenada and its implications for other member countries.

A main issue is expected to be the Contadora peace initiative, in which the Contadora members - Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia - are preparing one or more draft agreements aimed at bringing peace to El Salvador.

Latin America united against Britain

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Latin American countries in the United Nations General Assembly have shown strong support for Argentina in its dispute with Britain over the Falklands.

In the first day of the Falklands debate on Monday most Latin American speakers

echoed Argentina in describing Britain's presence in the South Atlantic as a strategic military build-up tied to the interests of Nato.

Countries that were critical of Argentina's invasion of the islands have rallied behind

Israelis head for 200% inflation

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The economic plight of Israel worsened yesterday with the publication of official statistics showing that inflation last month jumped by a record 21.1 per cent, by far the biggest such rise since the creation-of the state.

Economists say inflation rose to 126.1 per cent during the first 10 months of this year and could approach a crippling 200 per cent by the year's end. The highest previous monthly increase was 13.3 per cent.

Coming a month after the resignation of Mr Yoram Aridor, the Finance Minister and replacement of his policy by one devoted primarily to cutting the \$5,000m (£3,300m) balance of payments deficit, the figures pose a political threat to the new Cabinet.

Trade union leaders are furious and some were quick to threaten industrial action if measures were not taken to reimburse workers whose index-linked compensation for inflation is usually paid three months in arrears.

Even before yesterday's bombshell, workers had been complaining that inflation was increasing faster than their compensation.

Many senior political figures acknowledge that there is little chance of the Government winning the battle against inflation until the all-embracing system of index linking is at

Toll of Tyre suicide bombing rises to 61

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - The death toll in the suicide bombing of Israel's security headquarters in Tyre, southern Lebanon, rose to 61 yesterday with the death of a wounded Israeli soldier, the military command said. The bombing on November 4 killed 29 Israelis and 32 Palestinians and Lebanese detained in the building. Cabinet ministers have criticized a military inquiry which, according to unofficial reports, found that officers had taken adequate security precautions.

At least partially dismantled. But government officials say that in the present climate, such a move is politically impossible.

During a speech to foreign journalists 24 hours before publication of the figures, Mr Yigal Cohen-Orgad, the Finance Minister, did not once refer to Israel's inflation, which was pointed out to him during questions afterwards.

He pledged then to reduce it to "manageable proportions" but would give no exact figures and emphasized that an improvement in the balance of payment position was now his priority.

A number of opinion polls have pinpointed the economy as the main reason - with the crisis in Lebanon - for the declining popularity of the right-wing Likud Government in relation to that of the Labour Opposition. Yesterday's figures were seen as likely to accelerate the trend.

Sanctions end

Tokyo (Reuters) - Japan lifted sanctions imposed on the Soviet Union after Russian fighters shot down the South Korean airliner north of Japan in September.

periphery of major events in the Western Hemisphere, including, for example, US intervention in Grenada.

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Unita says it holds five Britons captive

Paris (Reuters) - Unita rebels say they captured five British and 12 Portuguese citizens in attacks on government positions in eastern Angola on Sunday.

A Communique said the 17 were seized during raids on Kazombo and Kavango and on a bridge over the Zambezi river in Mexico province. A Unita spokesman here said he believed they were civilian technicians working on development projects.

Publisher fined \$10,000 a day

Los Angeles (Reuters) - A judge ordered Larry Flynt, publisher of Hustler magazine, to pay \$10,000 (about £6,700) a day until he agrees to reveal the source of a tape recording alleged to contain threats against John De Lorean, the car manufacturer who faces drug charges.

Judge Robert Takasago also fined Flynt, who is confined to a gold-plated wheelchair after being shot in an assassination attempt, \$25,000 for failing to appear in court on November 1 to hand over the tape.

Heineken clues

Amsterdam (AFP) - Dutch police have a detailed description of the three kidnapers of Mr Freddy Heineken, aged 60, the brewing millionaire seized with his chauffeur here eight days ago. A spokesman said they have also traced the house used by the trio to prepare the kidnapping.

France in dark

Paris (AP) - A four-hour strike by electricity workers hit about two million people in Paris, Marseille, Lille and Toulouse during the early morning.

Nuns protest

Baguio, Philippines (Reuters) - About 50,000 people, including Roman Catholic nuns, called on President Marcos to resign in a march along the main street of Baguio, a city regarded until now as a Marcos stronghold.

Foam of anger

Amsterdam (Reuters) - Protesting firemen spread a carpet of foam 13ft high around the Dutch Parliament as public sector unions stepped up strikes and go-slows ahead of talks with the government on a proposed pay cut of 3 per cent.

Crash kills 16

Istanbul (AP) - Sixteen people were killed and 24 others hurt when a bus collided with a lorry and another bus in heavy fog in Sakarya, 62 miles east of here.

Pinta penalty

Stiffer penalties on farmers who overproduce milk and cereals are advocated by the House of Lords Select Committee on the EEC in a report published today.

Train death

Toulouse (AFP) - Three soldiers of the French Foreign Legion are being questioned about an incident on a train during which an Algerian was thrown out of a window to his death.

Pilot's reward

Taipei (AP) - A Chinese Navy pilot who defected to Taiwan in a MiG 17 will be commissioned a major in the Taiwan Air Force but will receive a gold reward less than originally reported. He will be given about \$550,000.

Four hanged

Tehran (AFP) - Four drug traffickers, one an Afghan, were hanged in the Gulf port of Bandar Abbas and on Qeshm Island, the Daily Kayhan reported here.

Suicide by fire

Tokyo (Reuters) - More than 750 Japanese committed suicide last year by setting fire to their homes, an average of more than two a day, according to a government report. Debts and domestic problems were thought to be the main reasons.

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مكتبة من الأصل

The royal visit to Bangladesh

Queen honours victims of independence war

From Michael Hamlyn Dhaka

The Queen yesterday drove out into the countryside at the muddy end of the Indian subcontinent to lay a wreath at the mass grave of thousands of Bangladeshis killed during the struggle for independence from Pakistan.

Under the enormous sky of the combined deltas of the Bramaputra and Ganges, a heavily guarded cavalcade, led by her six-door white Mercedes limousine, wound through the outskirts of Dhaka where thousands of cheerful citizens stood and waved.

Out in the oozing countryside the villagers, many waist-deep in the waters of the Burhi Ganga, of Old Ganges, turned to wave too. Fishermen in graceful, sharply raked boats stopped casting their nets to watch, and the village women balancing children on their hips looked round the woven palm-leaf walls of their huts.

Schoolchildren, the boys in shorts the girls in shalwar and kameez, the traditional Muslim baggy trousers and long shirt, stood in ordered rows, and school bands played under decorated archways of welcome. The girls waved their white dupattas, scarf-like shawls, as the cavalcade passed.

The mass grave, which was discovered after the defeated Pakistan Army was driven to the former eastern wing of their country, is now the site of a national martyrs' memorial. The shadeless brick mauso-



Guest of honour: The Queen and her host, President Choudhury, at Bangabhaban Palace in Dhaka.

leum is dominated by a 150ft-high monument of seven separate concrete triangles, nesting within one another to look like a soaring fluted pyramid.

At its foot an honour guard from the East Bengal Regiment in well-pressed camouflage overalls and shining American-style helmets presented arms

while four buglers sounded "Last Post" and "Reveille". The Queen, in a red flowered dress with an ivory straw Breton hat trimmed in red and with white shoes, signed a visitor's book and planted a tree.

When she returned to Dhaka the Queen visited the presidential palace, Bangabhaban, where

she was saluted under a crimson canopy embroidered with a golden lotus - Bangladesh's national flower. She inspected a guard of honour of the President's Guards before sitting in the chandeliered durbarrhal with the President, Mr Ahsanuddin Choudhury. Mr Choudhury, a former Supreme Court judge, is expected to be named

as chairman of the political party soon to be founded by Lieutenant-General Husain Ershad, the military ruler of Bangladesh.

Earlier in the day General Ershad told the BBC that he would definitely be a candidate in the presidential election, and that he would retire from the Army before it was held.

Spain's schools in transition

Breaking the class barrier

Richard Wigg, Madrid Correspondent, continuing his journey down the River Ebro, reports from Zaragoza on education. This is the third of four articles.

If you are a successful and wealthy surgeon in this big industrial city (population 570,000), which likes to regard itself as capital of the whole Ebro region, there are no longer any easy answers about where to send your son for the best education.

There is little opportunity in Spain generally for conspicuous expenditure on education. The church-run private boarding schools virtually disappeared more than a decade ago: neither schools nor parents thought of meeting rocketing costs, and for an Aragonese it would be unthinkable to banish a boy from his family for months in faraway Madrid, where the Colegio del Pilar is perhaps the nearest thing in Spain to a leading British public school.

The choice at Zaragoza comes down to three, if you discount the college run by Opus Dei, the right-wing Catholic lay organization.

The first is El Salvador College, run by the Jesuits (Luis Buñuel, Spain's greatest film director, was a pupil there) which costs at most £350 a year at secondary level. It has more than 3,000 pupils from primary to pre-university levels, and now takes the maximum available state education grant.

The second is the Goya Institute, Zaragoza's most

famous grammar school, dating from the 1870s. It costs £26 a year at O level.

Finally, there is Zaragoza's own Pilar College, founded in 1946, run by the Marianist Fathers. With extras, it costs about £500 a year. The college agreed with the Socialist Government last August to take an 85 per cent grant.

"Our school must reflect society. If the state pays it does so for all of society", Father Vicente Parra, El Salvador's best convents.

The Marianist Fathers emphasize that they are opposed to educating an elite of better-off children, but their public image is against that. The school is situated, unlike the other two, on the city's outskirts in the best residential area, and children are taken to it by bus from all over town.

"We know we are not alone in education. I calculate that half of out 2,900 pupils' parents would be unable to meet the fees if we were forced to go private, which we did not wish to do anyway," the headmaster told me, referring to Spain's new Education Bill, which now before Parliament.

The most explosive aspect of this Socialist measure is greater financial control by the state over all kinds of private education, including church schools and over the running of schools.

Sénor Ramón Sáenz de Viramonta, Zaragoza's Socialist Mayor, emphasized to me how big changes had come over the city's education system since the advent of democracy.

Tomorrow: The delta



EBRO JOURNEY Part 3

Talks on Hongkong future end in hope

Peking (APF) - Britain and China yesterday wound up their latest round of talks on the future of Hongkong on an encouraging note, with a joint statement saying that they were "useful and constructive". The seventh round will take place here on December 7 and 8, the statement said.

There was no word on the content of the current session which started on Monday, but the phrasing of the statement suggested the talks went off without incident.

Over the summer, joint Sino-British statements released at the end of several rounds of talks simply announced the date of the next meeting, without using the formula "useful and constructive", while China launched a spate of bitter attacks in its press.

The Chinese attacks ended last month with the previous round of talks, also described in a joint statement as "useful and constructive".

Last week, China publicly repeated that it intended to release its "policies and guidelines" on Hongkong some time next year. Most of the colony is due to revert to China in less than 14 years when Britain's 99-year lease on the New Territories area expires.

● HONGKONG: The Wide Angle, A pro-Peking magazine in Hongkong with reliable Chinese Communist Party connections, claimed yesterday, that China had drafted three possible administration policies for zone government in Hongkong after 1997 (Richard Hughes writes).

It attributed the information to a local delegate to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

The three alternative proposals are:

1. If cooperation with the British is not satisfactory and the democratic consciousness of the citizens is not fully developed there will be a merger of the Executive and Legislative Councils (Hongkong's existing "Government" and "Parliament") and some of the members will be elected by the people. How the chief administrator is elected would depend on the current situation.

2. If Britain allows Hongkong people to administer the colony in a democratic way, and there is a good democratic atmosphere, there will be a full democratic election.

3. If Britain does not educate Hongkong people to develop democratic consciousness, there will be a consultative process to elect the chief administrator.

France declares nuclear tests will continue

Wellington (Reuter) - France will continue with nuclear tests in the South Pacific indefinitely, M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, said yesterday.

M Cheysson, defending French nuclear policy, said at a press conference that his Government was convinced that the nuclear deterrent was the best arm for peace. There have been strong objections from nations in the region to the nuclear tests.

● CANBERRA: M Cheysson arrived in Canberra yesterday for talks with Australian leaders (AFP reports).

He will have talks today with Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Lionel Bowen, the Minister for Trade.

India opposition walks out of Parliament

From Kuldip Nayar Delhi

The Opposition in both Houses of parliament walked out on the opening day of the winter session in protest against the refusal to discuss the alleged attempt to bribe an independent MP by the ruling Congress (I) party in Karnataka.

At a press conference in Bangalore on Sunday, the MP, Mr C. Byre Gowda, produced bundles of notes to the value of 200,000 rupees (£13,000) and played a tape with an alleged recorded conversation with the Congress (I) Assembly leader, Mr Veerappa Mollay.

Congress (I), has been trying for some time to oust the Janata government in Karnataka through defection of its MPs.

N Korea attacks Reagan

Tokyo (Reuter) - North Korea yesterday denounced President Reagan's trip to South Korea as a "vicious challenge to the entire Korean people" aimed at leading the peninsula to the brink of war.

A Foreign ministry statement carried by the official (North) Korean Central News Agency and monitored here, said that President Reagan had undertaken the three-day trip to burnish his image for next year's presidential election.

The President's trip "was a war-oriented trip for strengthening still more the colonial, military fascist rule, plotting the provocation of another war in Korea (and) rounding off the

US-Japan-South Korea three-way military alliance".

● WASHINGTON: On his return to America on Monday President Reagan told White House staff that the United States was working with Japan and South Korea as partners "to make tomorrow better and more secure" (Mohsin Ali writes).

He said he was pleased to report good news: "America's partnerships are stronger and prospects for a more secure peace and prosperity are better today than a week ago" when he flew to Tokyo.

President Reagan, who will visit China next April, thought that the next century would be the century of the Pacific.

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Losing ground in the paper chase

moreover... Miles Kington

So that's where you were

Where were you when you heard the news of President Kennedy's assassination? We asked the few remaining people who have not been asked already.

Bruce Denis (TV producer): "I can remember to this very day, I was sitting at a table in the canteen at TV centre when somebody rushed in and said 'Kennedy's been killed'. We all looked at each other, with the same thought: this is going to make a terrific programme, if we can just get the concept right. The others came up with ideas like, 'Who killed the President?' And is this the end of Camelot? but I saw right away that it was going to make a marvelous Where were you, the day Kennedy was shot? feature. Of course I had to wait 10 years to make it, but it was well worth it."

Simon Welkin (novelist): "I can laugh about it now but Kennedy's death actually led to the break-up of my marriage. When the news came through, I was in my girlfriend's flat in Maida Vale, and when I got home my wife asked me where I had been when I heard about it. Well, we had an open sort of marriage - I told her nothing and she didn't tell me anything - so I said I had been in a meeting with my publisher, Arnold Franglais.

"That would have been all right except that 10 years later some idiot at the BBC put on a programme about where we all were when we heard about Kennedy's death, and who should come on but my publisher, the very same Arnold, revealing that he had been driving through Scotland at the time. That's funny, said my wife I thought you were with him. You've never been to Scotland in your life. A few more questions and out it all came, the girl-friend and everything, and things were never the same again.

Arthur Hallsam (shepherd): "I've never been much of a one for news and things, except where it concerned sheep, and they never give you news about sheep. I mean, take Lebanon, they've got sheep there but does it ever feature in the news? As far as I'm concerned, that bit in the Bible about Shepherds in the field is the last bit of hard news to come out of the Middle East.

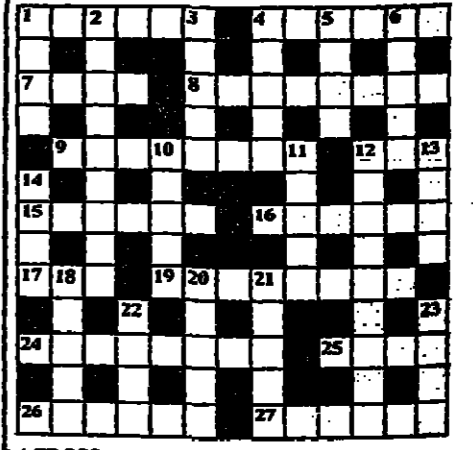
"Anyway, I was out one day in 1973 looking for a couple of ewes when this bloke came running up with a microphone and said, 'I'm from the BBC, where were you when Kennedy was shot?' And I swear to you, that was the first I'd heard about it. I told him, but he didn't believe me. Actually, I didn't even know that Kennedy had been elected, but he never asked me that."

Arnold Franglais (publisher): "I genuinely can't remember where I was when I heard about Kennedy. I normally tell people that I was driving through Scotland, which seems safe enough, but it's not true. I can vaguely remember hearing about this book depository in Dallas and being surprised to learn that they read books in Dallas, but that's it. I'm sorry."

Orville Bush (American librarian): "I was in the book depository in Dallas at the time, sorting out some dictionaries for a school. There were a couple of loud bangs in the room next door, so I went to have a look see and there was this guy trying to put something away in a package. Having trouble feller? I asked him. 'No', he said, 'but they're sure having trouble outside'. I looked out of the window and sure enough there were cars all piled up all over the place, but that's pretty normal in Dallas so I didn't think twice about it. Later, I put two and two together, but it was a bit late by then so I've always kept quiet."

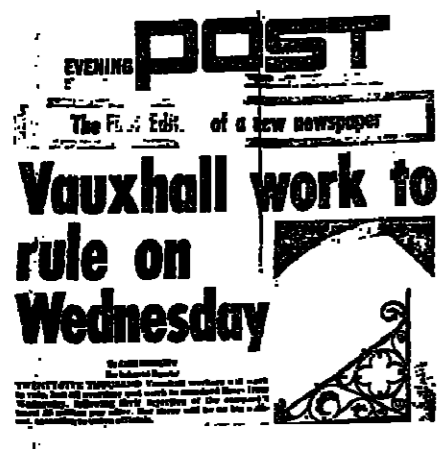
Amanda Welkin (housewife): "I was with Arnold Franglais, the publisher, at the time. We were having an affair - in fact, it was really only because of me that he published my husband's novels, which nobody ever bought. When I got home, my husband said he had been with Arnold Franglais at the time and it was then I began to suspect he might be lying to me about things. I think I would have told him just to see the expression on his face."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 203)



- ACROSS
- 1 Cassini (6)
 - 4 Dilapidated car (6)
 - 7 Claw (4)
 - 8 Guillotine carts (8)
 - 9 Confused mixture (8)
 - 12 Sabines (3)
 - 15 Quarters (6)
 - 16 Do a favour (6)
 - 17 At the stern (3)
 - 19 Steep-angled cannon (8)
 - 24 Early flower (8)
 - 25 Expensive and grateful (6)
 - 27 Large soup dish (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Move swiftly (4)
 - 2 Self-styled (3,6)
 - 3 Red Indian symbol (5)
 - 4 Door frame sides (5)
 - 5 Frolic (4)
 - 6 Thrub (5)
 - 10 Small animal cage (5)
 - 11 Usual practice (5)
 - 12 Television peak hour (5,4)
 - 13 Clarified butter (4)
 - 14 Water (4)
 - 18 Soap-making songbird (5)
 - 20 Iris (5)
 - 21 Insect (5)
 - 22 Long-necked bird (4)
 - 23 Indication (4)

SOLUTION TO No 202
ACROSS: 1 Spire 5 Kept 8 Lolly 9 Gingham 11 Flinety 13 Flag 15 Rancorous 18 Army 19 Offshoot 22 A priori 23 Juice 24 Jam 25 Gambit
DOWN: 2 Pilau 3 Any 4 Highland fling 5 Kiva 6 Popular 7 Bluff 10 Ergo 12 Niece 14 Lass 15 Remorse 16 Data 17 Sways 20 Orbit 21 Numb 23 Jam



The Post-Echo's buoyant start

A miracle is hoped for in Hemel Hempstead today. In one of its manifestations, the sky will brighten unnaturally over South Herts and a winged magnate will come lightly down to rest on a roof in the industrial estate. He will take a cheque book from his cape pocket and write *Post-Echo* above a figure with an endless tail of noughts. As it flutters down into Mark Road he will soar once more above the upstretched arms of cheering journalists, then southward to London and the real world.

If the weather conditions are against the miraculous magnate will have to be by train to Boxmoor and then catch. Either way, it would help if he could get to the *Post-Echo* offices by 10.15, because after that there will be no more *Post-Echo*. Besides which, the journalists might well have gone to the pub for a round or two on the "undough".

The magnate therefore has but a matter of hours in which to act, if truth be told the small ad are to travel side by side once more in vans to Luton and Watford.

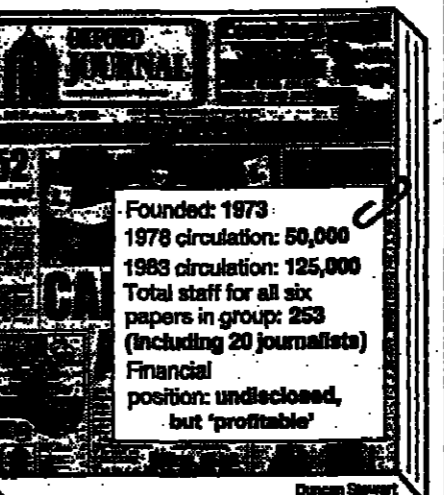
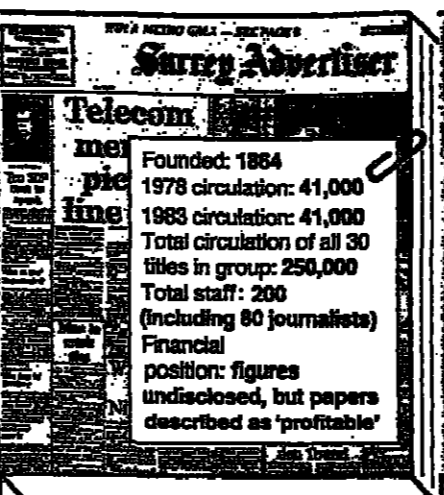
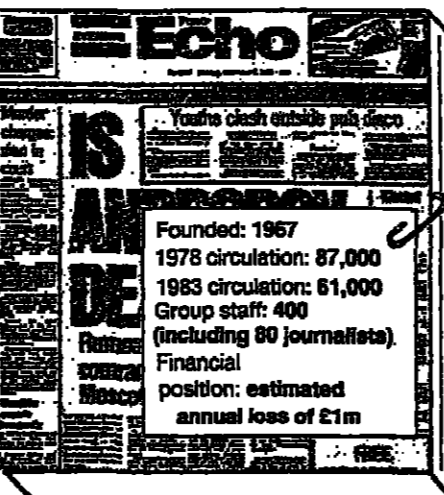
Alternatively, it is just possible that the paper will have won a twelfth-hour reprieve by the time you read this, and that the national press will look foolish once again. But no one has put money on it.

These have not been happy times at Hemel: for nine months rumours have been blowing down the corridors like old newspapers in a ghost town. There would be retrenchment, there would be voluntary redundancy, there would be compression of the paper. No, said the optimists, quite the reverse - Thomson Regional Newspapers is planning to pump money in, no way will they let us stop publishing. You do not need to be a journalist to know that there is some ingredient in the air at newspaper offices which enables a rumour to travel faster and multiply more abundantly than in any other environment.

Even during these last bitter days and hours, when it has been clear that the direst scenarios were to be trumped by the reality, the morale of the *Post-Echo* staff has remained surprisingly high. They may have been leaving half an hour earlier than they used to, but they are still pushing out a bright and terse evening tabloid, swelled today by the insertion of a "cradle-to-grave" supplement.

It has been too short a life dating back only to 1967, when the economic climate in the South-east made Thomson's plan to ring the capital with regionals seem feasible. The formation of the *Post-Echo* in its present shape came nine years later, when the company saw the waste of

Today the Hemel Hempstead Post-Echo will close after only 16 years in business. It is the latest regional newspaper to lose the battle for survival. Alan Franks reports on the fortunes of the press outside London



Circulation of morning regionals in England and Wales. Circulation of evening regionals in the UK. Circulation of local paid-for weeklies in UK. Last report by Mintel, published in June 1981, quoted the 1980 figure as 10,740,000.

The drama behind the headlines: the evening to close, a weekly hanging on and a free sheet now booming



Post-Echo editor Trevor Wade (foreground) with his deputy, Alan Manley, and members of the editorial staff (Photograph by Suresh Karadia)

Street, and will soon be sub-editing at the *Financial Times*. "Scratch any of the nationals", he goes on, "and you'll see *Post-Echo* people. It is the best training ground there is. Look around you at *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. Stephen Pile, Anthony Holden, Alan Hamilton - they were all Hemel people. I could give you dozens more names."

"The management" doubles remarkably effectively as a four-letter word on the work floor of papers that are going to the wall. Should Thomsons have not seen the straws in the wind earlier? Should it not have known that the Situations Vacant columns might be hit by the fall in recruitment when Hemel lost its new-town status in 1975? Should it not have drawn in its boundaries far earlier and avoided the old regional-paper error of sending a van 40 miles to a village which wants only two copies? Should it not have capitalized more effectively when the *Evening Standard* tightened its perimeter? Above all, should it not have taken the threat of the free papers more seriously?

Free papers have proved very durable

Free papers: another four-letter word. While the regionals have declined, the frees have staged the most spectacular expansion. There are now 580 newspapers in the country being distributed free through front doors, with a total delivery figure of 24,000,000, more than twice the number of paid-for local papers. But that is not the most staggering figure. Between 1978 and 1982 advertising revenue coming to the frees grew almost fourfold, from £35m a year to £136m. In the paid-for sector of the weekly press meanwhile, the revenue rose by just one third, from £150m to £196m.

The truly frightening thing for the conventional local press is that where as paid-for weeklies once had more than four times the present revenue, they will actually be overtaken by their new rivals by the end of 1984 if present trends continue. Although not a weekly the *Post-Echo* proved vulnerable to the competition. Some would trace its decline back to 1978 and the seven-week stoppage of the provincial press after which this evening paper, and probably many others, never fully regained a competitive share of the advertising. It was the *Post-Echo*'s misfortune to find itself in an area with an immense proliferation of free papers.

Ask at Hemel Hempstead for the present distribution figure and you get a rather despairing "Oooh, dozens". Bruce Series articulates the complaints of many journalists when he says that you hardly ever see a free paper present at court hearings or in the council gallery.

The debate about the place of the free paper is complex and often emotive. The case for the prosecution is, broadly, as follows: the free papers are of indifferent quality; they are

neither willing nor able to give a comprehensive local news coverage; their distribution is erratic, and their arrival cannot be guaranteed; they do not budget for an adequate editorial staff; they are self-debasing because the reader has not expressed the choice to take the publication.

The case for the defence is that the free paper is a proved economic medium for advertisers in all three principal sectors of jobs, houses and cars; it actually represents an improvement in local news awareness because of its greater penetration; it was high time that the entrenched local press was undercut by a competitive medium.

Whatever the pros and cons, the frees have proved remarkably durable, if not as individual titles, then at least as a breed. In the early 1970s it looked as though they were creatures of the boom and would indeed, in the words of a Press Council report, "come and go like leaves in the wind". Any boom will stimulate advertising demand, and businessmen will try to establish extra outlets which can be easily regulated. What was perhaps imperfectly foreseen in the local and regional press is that a recession could bring about much the same effect through the appeal of a cheap medium to people operating constrained advertising budgets.

It is hard to establish the degree to which free papers are thought somehow to be doing something immoral by taking money once used by communities to pay for their local news service. That is surely the darkest of many grey areas.

With disarming candour Alan Manley, deputy editor of the *Post-Echo*, who has been at the paper from the off, agrees it is just possible that journalists overestimated the demand which the reading public would have for their services when the pressure of choice was applied. Indeed, one of his junior colleagues even describes the free *Review* series, a competitor, as "superb".

At 54, Manley regrets the loss of all the fraternal feelings which have built up around the paper. "People say they'll keep in touch and all that, and no doubt they do mean it at the time. But it never actually happens like that. I know that after the last edition I will probably not see any of them again, and that does make me sad because they're a terrific bunch."

From Hemel Hempstead's rather doomy reaches I went in search of a buoyant paid-for weekly and a "good" free one. I found the first in Guildford and the second in Oxford.

At the *Surrey Advertiser* the column inches in the sits vac section were 35 per cent up in August over the same month, last year, and in September had more than doubled. Job relocations, the presence of two new Tesco's, the Blackwater development and Goldsworth Park in Woking seem to have helped to offset the effects of a national recession.

Advertiser's front page one senses that what this paper has, and what the *Post-Echo* may have lacked, is an entrenched position in the community, one which enables it to draw on long-standing loyalties when the going gets rough.

Ted Adams, the stubby and avuncular editor of the paper, reinforces that view, although he would not accept that the paper has kept its place only through force of history. *The Surrey Advertiser* has proved deceptively fleet-footed in the face of the free competition, killing off the bad one and buying up the good one. But then the Yellow Peril, or Yellow Advertiser Group to give it its proper title, is not an entirely new phenomenon in these parts; there was a free paper, *The Woking Review*, as long ago as 1926.

Changes are made with readers in view

During Local Newspaper Week last month, one of the Newspaper Society's initiatives to restore the appeal of the local press, the *Surrey Advertiser* published the findings of a Gallup survey which gave the paper a 78 per cent readership in its catchment area; 87 per cent in Guildford itself, and 65 per cent outside the town. It is a penetration which has proved virtually unassailable to opposition.

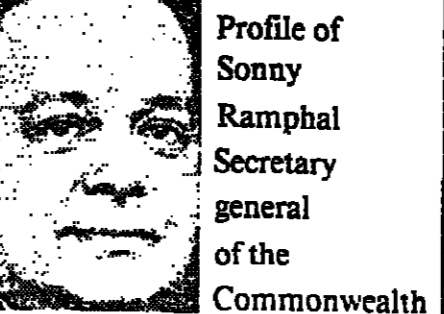
The other day Adams had reason to look through microfiches of the paper from 1936. "You know, the industry has been transformed in a way which few people realize. In those days we would run half editorial and half ads, and it was sold for a penny a go. That would have been profitable in a 16-page paper. Today, you could run 60 or 64 pages, with one-third editorial and two-thirds advertising, and still not be profitable." Adams, who is 62 and has been with the paper for 35 years, says that wherever possible all the changes made are made with the readers in view, "otherwise we lose them. It's as simple as that."

If Adams' paper has absorbed the lessons of the free paper, the *Oxford Journal* has survived largely by doing the obverse. It notched up 10 years in January, competing with the *Evening Mail* (down 2,000 since 1978) and the weekly *Oxford Times* (steady at 31,000). Even though it may have no more than 25 per cent editorial it runs at more than 50 pages, so there is room for a respectable local coverage. It also sends junior journalists on courses run by the National Council for the Training of Journalists, keeps what the editor Richard Thomson describes as "a watching brief" on courts and inquests, and prides itself on not being filled, as are many frees, with stories "lifted" from other papers.

The message in Oxford is that the town will sustain an evening paid-for weekly and more than one free publication. Each town and city will have its own natural level of newspaper consumption, according to the social and economic conditions, and as the free papers become more and more established it is the advertisers who will determine the levels more than the readers.

Meanwhile, from Reading comes the ringing message that by the end of this year Thomson Regional Newspapers will have cut by half the level of its losses for last year, and even the longest-suffering of the Hemel Hempstead journalists will be tempted to claim that they have done their bit to contribute to the results. There also comes a message from Mr William Heaps, managing director and editor-in-chief of TRN: "Our regionals are going back to basics. We want to offer a package that has relevance to an area. Some regionals, and I am not necessarily including the *Post-Echo* here, have tried to be influential beyond their own sphere. Today there is such confusion and diffusion in the sources of information that people are coming back to the traditional regional newspapers."

TOMORROW



Profile of Sonny Ramphal Secretary general of the Commonwealth



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DIARY OF A JOB HUNTER

In which Sarah Foot, Exeter University 1980-83, BA 2:1 History, armed with imperfect typing skills, attempts to find a job

I made my first assault on an electric typewriter last week. It is an experience which can only be likened to one's first driving lesson. My typewriter, although a little on the slow side, behaves as I command - there is no question of who is in control. Electric typewriters acknowledge no such authority - they type for themselves. Unfortunately, it was my acute embarrassment that I only made this discovery when financial necessity compelled me to approach a temping agency to market my typing "skills" (alas, inverted commas are now called for). With 32 words per minute and so many errors that the fault could not possibly have lain with my spelling ability, they were not interested. Although I have become hardened to the veritable barrage of assaults lately directed at my morale and confidence, this proved a real blow. When friends who have been to every part of the world before they begin their careers asked what I had done this summer, I had justified myself in explaining how I had saved both time and money in teaching myself to type. That I had clearly not met with every success in this endeavour prevented me with the dilemma of what on earth I was going to do now. Temporarily at least, my problem was alleviated in a manner which would have prompted a knowing smile from the careers analyst who recommended I always carried my c.v. to cocktail parties. I will explain. First, I suppose I ought to say that I was not really at a cocktail party, nor indeed in the capacity generally assumed by those who attend cocktail parties (a neighbour was celebrating her nineteenth birthday with a big family party and I had been asked to help with the washing-up. Whilst immersed in teacups I met



made my next stop an agency directed at graduates, where I was unwittingly ushered into a group interview on media sales. (The agency's graduate orientation no doubt explained why instead of waiting with the usual selection of *Horrid Henry* and *Oliver and Company*, we all had to display an interest in *The Economist*.) Unfortunately, at the agency opposite, the gentleman who interviewed me felt that I would not be a success in media sales - I was not aggressive enough. Somewhat alarmed that my interview technique was lacking, I asked whether I should be more aggressive. "No, interview conversation should be akin to that of a dinner party." Thinking of an interviewer who I felt had been quite genuine when he had said how much he had enjoyed our talk, how he had had a highly entertaining half-hour, but who had then rejected me, I suggested this might be a little flippant. "Well, think of one of your parents' dinner parties." At home, this advice prompted guffaws and hoots from the younger of my brothers in his protesting, ear-ringing, green-haired stage. As to career advice, he recommended a secretarial course. "Look, I said. "You would not tell me to do that if I was a man. How would you advise my hypothetical male clone?" He dithered, but pressing him on the issue he suggested I should work for a year to finance further study. Unfortunately, he could not see me earning enough with a speed of only 32 words per minute. I am therefore returning to the typewriter.

Sarah Foot



Julie Welch in the press box. "When I started the older ones were terribly patronising, explaining what a penalty was

Julie's action replay

Julie Welch, soccer writer, has written a play about her childhood passion for Spurs. Deborah Moggach followed her to White Hart Lane

"Footballers blow their noses and look at it." Thus speaks one of the characters in Julie Welch's film *Those Glory, Glory Days*. Such personal habits, however, don't seem to have dimmed Julie's lifelong love affair with soccer. After all, sport transcends mere mortals, doesn't it, noses and all? Caught in the roar of the crowd, the great heartbeat of the audience, footballers become gods. Well, they do to Julie Welch.

Now 35, she has been a football reporter for *The Observer* for the past 11 years, the only woman in this country to hold such a job. However, her love affair goes way back beyond this, back to her school days when, with a gang of three other girls called Toni, Jillbird and Tub she had her own Spurs supporters' club. In that long-lost era of Brylcreem and baggy shorts, when footballers played fair and looked so terribly middle-aged, her hero was Danny Blanchflower. Years later she was one of her first match assignments and met him, by chance, when she was walking home and he offered her a lift. "Face to face," she says, "with God."

It was this incident which sparked off the story of *Those Glory, Glory Days*, a highly autobiographical account of her gang of four and their Spurs worship. Film maker David Puttnam just happens to be a Spurs supporter, and he just happened to hear this story, hence tomorrow night's film on Channel 4 which arrives trailing pedigree names, including a cameo role for Danny Blanchflower as himself. Like anyone who fictionalizes one's own past, she has found the process both stirring and unnerving. "So many threads became tangled together," she says. "Julia in the film is me, though it wasn't until I'd written it that I realized I'd given her nearly my own name. My bedroom, like hers, was a shrine to Spurs. My parents, too, didn't understand my obsession, though they aren't nearly as awful as the parents in the film." Julie Welch was brought up in Essex. It was at the City of London School that she met her gang, but she lost touch with them after she was moved to a genteel boarding school in Felixstowe and she hasn't seen them since. She went to Bristol University and studied philosophy. "After trying my hand at some entirely unsuccessful short stories I won a *Sunday Telegraph* young writers competition by describing the fruitier side of university life. This led to absolutely nothing." Finally

she became secretary to the sports editor of *The Observer*. The film opens with the adult Julie, on her first assignment, being humiliated by her male colleagues in the press stand. Was this true to life? "When I started it was. They presumed I was someone's girlfriend. The older ones were terribly patronising, explaining what a penalty was. I smoked a lot then, and they'd tell me I shouldn't - they'd never have said that to a man."

It must have worked, though, because now she pops a slab of nicotine chewing gum into her mouth. During this conversation we're taking the train to Saturday's match at White Hart Lane, so I can watch both Spurs and Julie Welch in action. Did they pinch her bottom? "Oh yes," she laughs. Football might be our first national interest, but sex comes a close second. Our train rattles towards its destination. It is packed with fans, some of whom have come all the way from Sweden, would you believe, for this match. Tension mounts, Julie chomps on her gum. Today she has to do a "runner", phoning in her commentary as she

writes it, because the match is such a big one it must catch all editions of the paper. This is nerve-racking and highly-skilled work.

"I'm an anxious person, a flapper". Any other reason? "Well, there's my sister. She takes after my mother, she's blonde and looks like Penula Clark. Me - I took after my father. Small and pretty." We arrive at the press lounge. One can think of few more exclusively male gatherings than a bunch of soccer reporters, guffawing in a thickening haze of smoke. Julie, however, is greeted as an old friend and colleague. Someone does in fact pinch her bottom but this has the faint-hearted look of a token gesture.

© Zoe Nathanson as Danny in the film. Julie Welch drew on her own childhood adulation of Danny Blanchflower for inspiration. "My bedroom was a shrine to Spurs"



Another takes her hand and admires her engagement ring but this, too, is done in a spirit of sexless bonhomie - it's all in the family as she's marrying Ronald Atkin, another *Observer* football writer.

In the film the adult Julie is a quasi-feminist, aggressive and boiler-suited not at all similar to her self-effacing creator. One feels pleased, but also sneakily disappointed, to see that the real Julie is treated simply as one amongst equals. In fact the only visible effect she has had here is the recent installation of the Julie Welch Memorial Loos. "Until then I had to wait outside until the men's was empty, then post a sentry beside the door while I nipped in."

Looking at this small figure in donkey jacket and jeans, I speculated whether she would be treated differently if she looked either like a boiler-suited feminist or Miss World. But by now the conclusion is blindingly obvious: No. Not if she's interested in football. The game begins - Spurs versus Liverpool. The crowd sways like seaweed, with sudden wilder currents at the Liverpool supporters' end. In the press stand each seat has a little lamp, a phone socket and a British Rail-type folding to write on. Wedged between the *Mirror* and the *Sunday People*, I'm the one ignorant person in a crowd of 45,000. Around me the scribes are scribbling, some entirely illegibly, and passing chatty information to each other. I'm sitting behind Julie and can read her copy over her shoulder. She pops another Nicorette into her mouth and grabs the phone. It's freezing. I try to analyse, in vain, why people actually think this is enjoyable. Then suddenly there's a goal; the crowd rises and roars. Just for one, fleeting moment I almost see the point.

Afterwards the reporters carry away their phones like characters in an avant-garde play. The press lounge is littered with empty, creased-up plastic plates - quick off the mark, these backs - and glasses are filled with light ale as the team managers hold a press conference. Then with affectionate farewells we all disperse into the night. Julie is going back to her house in Wandsworth which she shares with three Burmese cats. "Beautiful creatures," she says. "They're like... like pussies... yet muscular." Just like footballers. *Those Glory, Glory Days* will be screened tomorrow at the London Film Festival and also on Channel 4 at 9.30pm.

TALKBACK

Easing the anguish

Last Wednesday, Esther Rantzen argued that it was time hospitals allowed parents properly to mourn stillborn children. From Mrs Kate Saffin, 31 Sellwood Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Thank you for the article by Esther Rantzen highlighting the anguish of parents whose baby is born dead. Member of the Health Visitors Association have been pressing the Registrar General for some time to provide the opportunity for such parents to record their child's name. It seems very high handed to insist, in the face of parental and professional opposition, that this would "distress" the parents. Most would welcome anything, however small, that helps to give substance to the life that never was. From Mrs Elizabeth Hill, Ward 7, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Sciennes Road, Edinburgh. Esther Rantzen's *The Last Babies* on BBC 1 coupled with her article gives a very biased and ill-researched account of how parents are treated. I am attached to a specialist baby unit where physically and mentally handicapped as well as grossly deformed babies have just been born. Every encouragement is given to parents to remain with their baby throughout the period of its dying and afterwards. If the mother's unit is full, alternative accommodation is found. Doctors and nurses spend many hours explaining the medical condition and what is happening throughout. As a full-time counsellor I often just sit in silence, hold hands with the mother, cuddle the baby and cry with the parents. The practical matters such as arranging a christening, funeral plans and having photographs taken are all very sensitively handled. It is not only the trauma of death, but often preparing parents for the future when a grossly handicapped baby may survive for many years. From Mrs Sylvia C. Glen, 2 Goffhill Drive, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire. I was extremely interested in your feature "Devalued Dead". Our first child was stillborn in 1951. Not only was his death devalued, but it was considered a total non-event by all concerned. I was, in fact, so confused by anaesthetics that I did not realize that I had given birth to a baby at all. It was only after three weeks that I dared to clamber down from my bed and found the medical card attached to the bottom board. I read that on June 26 I had given birth to a normal baby and his weight, height, colour of hair etc. were stated. I was utterly flabbergasted. Then evening I asked what had happened to him and was told that "it" had been taken away by the undertakers and to think no more of the matter. I still do think about him. From the Bishop of Bedford, the Right Reverend David J. Farmborough. In her valuable article, Esther Rantzen emphasizes the necessity for a parent to recognize a still-born child as "a real baby; my baby". The point is powerfully illustrated in the recent biography of Hensley Henson by Owen Chadwick (Oxford University Press, 1983) when he quotes Henson's diary for January 1905: "About 5am the doctor came to my study to say that the end had been reached. Ella was well, and the child was born dead... I looked at the dead boy; he is fashioned completely, and fairly proportioned though small; his tiny face had a care-stricken and sorrowful look which sufficiently confessed its father. It is no 'still-born infant' that I mourn, but my own son." Eighty years ago Henson understood a truth which we need to learn afresh and apply in our procedures as doctors, nurses or parish priests. From the Reverend Andrew Dow, Vicar St. Paul's Leamington. In the light of Esther Rantzen's comments that all deaths, including still births, must be recognized, mourned and accepted, it is worth pointing out that the new Church of England Prayer Book - the Alternative Service Book 1980 - contains a short service headed: "Prayers for the birth of a still born child, and the death of a newly born child."

Winter harvest

"First catch your rice", said a fellow scribe of the kitchen in jest. It was true, too, of course, as jokes are, and those present swapped stories of the crawling, wriggling and airborne surprises sometimes discovered going about their business in jars and packets found in any kitchen. Whole foods which have escaped spraying and processing are likeliest to harbour unwanted sources of protein, and exotic imports - like big dried chillies I brought back from Mexico once - can spring to life before your eyes. Unless starvation loomed, who would think twice about dumping the offending foodstuffs? Yet when the deterioration is less dramatic thrift does battle with the pursuit of culinary excellence, and sometimes wins. Well, would you use up the dry raisins from the back of the store cupboard or juicy new ones to make the Christmas pudding?

Victorian grocers took pains to alert their customers to the arrival of the new season's fruits

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THE TIMES COOK



- 30g (1 oz) raisins
6 juniper berries, crushed
1/2 teaspoon caraway seeds
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
For the sauce
30g (1 oz) butter or olive oil
1 large onion, finely chopped
1 tablespoon paprika
225g (8 oz) peeled tomatoes, tinned or fresh
1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill, or 1 teaspoon dried
150 ml (1/2 pint) soured cream
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
Blanch the cabbage leaves in boiling water for two minutes, then drain them and pat them dry. Remove the central rib with a Y-shaped cut towards the centre of each leaf. Heat the oil and fry the

chopped onion and leek until they are tender and just beginning to brown. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the rice, lentils, nuts, raisins, juniper berries, caraway seeds, salt and pepper. Mix them thoroughly. Lay a large cabbage leaf, curly edge up, on a square of dampened muslin or a napkin which measures about 30 cm/12 in square. Put a smaller leaf the same way up in the centre of it. Place a heaped tablespoon of stuffing in the middle and fold the leaves loosely over it. Gather up the corners of the cloth and twist the cabbage in it to squeeze it into a neat ball. Fill the remaining leaves the same way. Arrange the balls of stuffed cabbage in a steamer over the boiling water and steam them, covered, for 30 minutes. Make the sauce while the cabbage is cooking. Heat the butter or oil in a saucepan and add the onion. Cook it on a low heat until it is tender without allowing it to brown. Take the pan off the heat and stir in the paprika followed by the tomatoes and dill. Return the sauce to the stove and simmer it for about 15 minutes. Stir in the soured cream and season the sauce to taste with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Serve the sauce as it is or, if you prefer it smooth, sieve or process it. Pour the sauce into a heated serving dish and arrange the stuffed cabbage in one layer over it. Pecan nuts have a sweeter taste than walnuts, which they resemble, and are the basis of that classic dish of the American deep south, pecan pie. Pecan pie Serves eight
225g (8oz) shelled pecan nuts
225g (8oz) wholewheat pastry flour
110g (4oz) butter, chilled
1 egg yolk
About 6 tablespoons cold water
3 large eggs
175ml (6 fl oz) golden syrup, or light corn syrup
170g (6oz) light brown sugar
Vanilla essence, optional
Spread the pecans on a baking sheet and toast them in a preheated moderate oven (160°C/325°F, gas mark 3) for 10 minutes, then allow to cool. To make the pastry, sift the flour into a bowl and rub in the butter. Mix to a firm dough with the egg yolk and water. Form the pastry into a ball and chill it, covered, for 30 minutes before rolling it out thinly on a floured surface. Use the pastry to line a loose-bottomed tart tin of 25 cm (10 in) diameter. Scatter the nuts over the pastry. Mix the eggs, syrup and sugar lightly together, adding vanilla essence as you like it, and pour the mixture into the tin. Let it stand until the nuts rise to the surface, then bake the pie in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 45 minutes, or until the filling is set. Cool the pie before turning it out and serve it warm or cold with unsweetened whipped cream or crème fraiche. Shona Crawford Poole

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THE ARTS

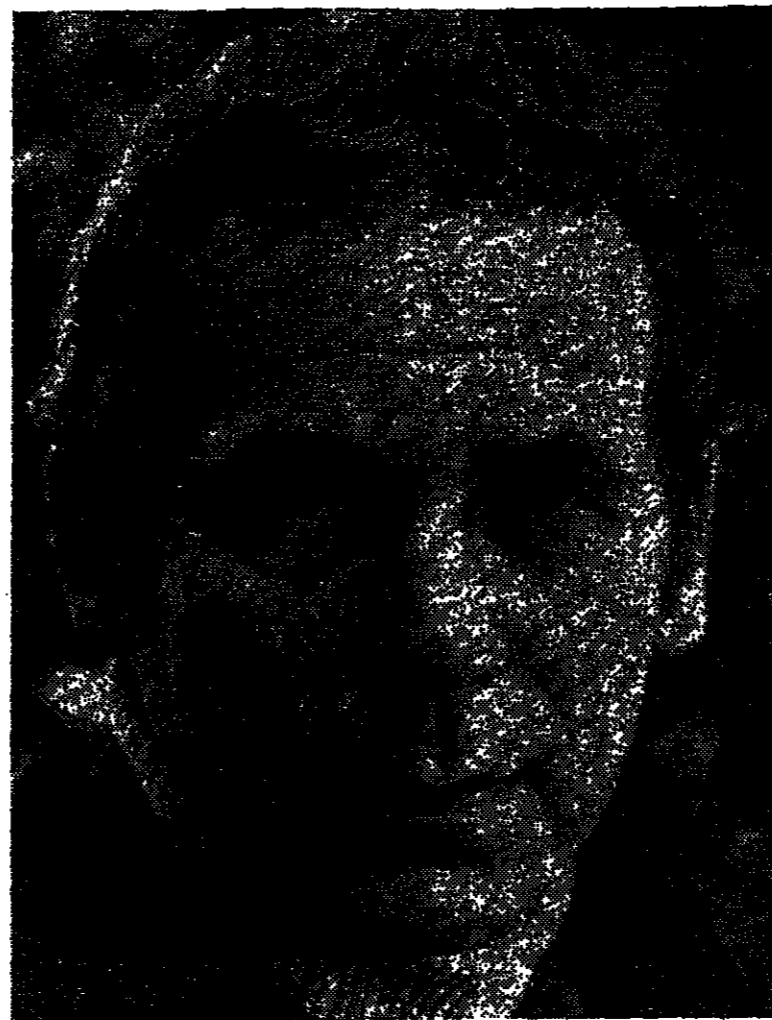
Geoffrey Hutchings (right), having clowned his way through Shakespeare, returns to the West End in *Poppy*, en route for Broadway: interview by Sheridan Morley

A market cornered in jest

In 1963, at the age of 24, Geoffrey Hutchings made his West End debut in a musical called *No Strings*, for which he was cast as a leading *Vogue* photographer in Paris, a part he played (thought the critic from *Harpers and Queen*) "more like a stranger from the East Wallasey Gazette."

Stephen Moore and Antonia Ellis for Geraldine Gardner. There are also a new set, using back-projected slides in place of some of the more cumbersome three-dimensional tracks, three new numbers and a lot of new choreography.

terrifying experience that turned out to be. The management only ever managed to sell it to a limited number of RSC devotees in New York, and once we'd used them up there were a lot of empty seats. So we took to the streets with banners, which I'm afraid I found deeply embarrassing that kind of thing may be all right for students



After *No Strings*, Hutchings went into a lot of local reps, toured for a while with a company whose slogan was "See the Stars of Tomorrow Today" - though not too many did - and finished up fervently trying to get into the RSC again: "I'd given myself five years to get something decent or leave the business, and I always knew I wasn't a juvenile lead - I knew I was the kind of actor who'd get good work at fifty if I could just hang on."

Theatre

Dancin' Drury Lane

My initial reaction to the arrival of Bob Fosse's *Dancin'* in London is to adapt the famous wartime phrase: it is over-typed, over-praised and over here. Also, probably, over-long in making the trip.

end of a number comes an infallible fortissimo, supplemented if necessary by having the spotlights swing wildly all over the stage. It never fails. Peter Larkin's scenery does not amount to much more than some adjustable hangings at the back, and most of Willa Kim's costumes are perfectly hideous, but they serve their purpose by leaving quite a bit of (non-crucial) flesh exposed much of the time.

John Percival

Baxter's Last Case Gate, Notting Hill

"A comfortable, spacious drawing room", Dave Fox's narrator announces, indicating a cramped geometrical interior, with a parlourmaid frozen with teeth on a ghastly horror and science fiction.

tache, and trousers well clear of the ankles. That, mark you, is only the beginning. Before long we find the nephew's psychic girlfriend experiencing ominous vibrations and seeing faces at the window, events on stage paralleling those in the radio play.

Irving Wardle

Television Prince of profit

questions about its wealth "undignified", and in this series one always comes down to the fact that aristocrats are simply the most successful financiers.

rather pained - perhaps they already had premonitions of chirpy Radio 1, Tom Fleming, in the central role, looked rather more like Tommy Cooper - although the comedian's catchphrase, "Just like that!" might have been used by Reith himself, at least as a command.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts Acquaintance worth remarking

LPO/Handley Festival Hall/Radio 3 The Great British Music Festival, it has been suggested to me, has really been designed as the Neglected British Music Festival.

slow movement featuring the horn, after which the three soloists team up for a cheerful finale. It was all given a friendly performance by principals of the London Philharmonic Orchestra and their colleagues under Vernon Handley.

Paul Griffiths

Opera Otello Covent Garden

There can be no role in the repertory Plácido Domingo has made so securely his own as Otello. Since he first sang it in Hamburg in September 1973, during the Liebermann regime there, his label has been attached to it and all other interpreters have appeared mere substitutes.



Tragic majesty: Domingo with Ricciarelli

in frame - the latter a good deal sparer than once it was. The whole of this last act provided singing and playing of a quality not heard at Covent Garden for some time. Katia Ricciarelli has not sung Desdemona in London before, although she took the role near the start of her career in that first Domingo Otello in Hamburg. Up to the last act the performance had been a little wayward: a late entry in the Love Duet before some golden tone from a Desdemona obviously besotted with her General, an unimpressive second act. But from her rejection in front of the Venetian emissaries Ricciarelli showed the true form that has often been eluding her over the past couple of years. The Willow Song was exquisitely sung in a way which recalled Freni in her prime, the Ave Maria rapidly murmured at the start before Desdemona remembers her innate religious feeling.

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John Higgins

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Edith Vogel St John's/Radio 3 A problem: to convey in a couple of paragraphs quite how astonishingly different Edith Vogel's playing is from nineteenth-century piano playing one hears these days, and how overwhelmingly musical it is.

Nicholas Kenyon

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Certificate of appropriate alternative development Use of confidential information

Grampian Regional Council and Others v Secretary of State for Scotland and Others

F. Rodger for the appellants; Mr M. S. R. Bruce, QC and Mr A. C. Henry for the secretary of state; Mr I. C. Kirkwood, QC and Mr A. M. Philip for the respondents; the landowners, Ashdale Land and Property Co Ltd.

In granting a certificate of appropriate alternative development of land proposed to be acquired by an authority possessing compulsory purchase powers under section 25 of the Land Compensation (Scotland) Act 1963, the local planning authority, or the secretary of state on appeal, was required to ignore not only the immediate event bringing section 25 into operation (in the present case the authority's written offer to purchase the land) but also the underlying requirement that the site should be devoted to a public purpose.

The relevant date for decision on an application for a certificate was the date of the offer to purchase, notice to treat, etc, not that of the application.

The House of Lords dismissed appeals by the Grampian Regional Council, the education authority, and the Gordon District Council, and the local planning authority, from a majority decision of the Court of Session (Lord Dunpark and Lord McDonald, Lord Avonside dissenting) on January 28, 1983 affirming a decision of the first respondent, the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Section 25 of the 1963 Act (as amended) by the Community Land Act 1975) provides:

(3) An application for a certificate under this section - (a) shall state whether or not there are, in the applicant's opinion, any classes of development which, either immediately or at a future time, would be appropriate for the land in question if it were not proposed to be acquired by any authority possessing compulsory purchase powers and, if so, shall specify the classes of development and the times at which they would be so appropriate...

(4) Where an application is made to the planning authority for a certificate under this section in respect of an interest in land, the planning authority shall... issue to the applicant a certificate stating that, in the opinion of the planning authority in respect of the land in question, either (a) planning permission for development of one or more classes specified in the certificate (whether specified in the application or not) would have been granted if the authority by whom the interest is proposed to be acquired [a "negative certificate"]...

The relevant provisions of the 1963 Act and the Land Compensation Act 1961 are similar. Mr J. A. Cameron, QC and Mr A.

LORD BRIDGE said that the education authority had acquired from the landowners sites for a primary and a secondary school in a newly developed suburb of Aberdeen called Westhill on terms agreed pursuant to offers in writing made by the education authority on December 19, 1976, and January 15, 1977, respectively. The general Westhill development had not been carried out pursuant to formal provisions of the development plan, but had been approved by the secretary of state as a departure from the plan. The agreements had provided for the landowners to receive the same compensation, fixed as at the date of the respective offers, as if the land had been acquired compulsorily.

On July 28, 1978, the landowners applied to the planning authority pursuant to section 25 of the 1963 Act for certificates of appropriate alternative development. Parallel applications by the education authority gave rise to no separate issue and could for present purposes be ignored.

The planning authority had issued certificates to the landowners stating that, in their opinion, planning permission would not have been granted for any development other than that proposed to be carried out by the education authority.

On appeal by the landowners, the secretary of state had certified that planning permission would have been granted in respect of the primary school site for residential development and in respect of the secondary school site for residential or commercial development, in each case subject to conditions.

The sole purpose of the certification procedure was to provide a basis for determining the development value, if any, to be taken into account in assessing the compensation payable on compulsory acquisition. It was difficult to envisage a situation in practice in which the Lands Tribunal, when assessing compensation, could be persuaded to act on a contrary opinion to that certified by the planning authority or the secretary of state on appeal.

It had always been envisaged that the substantial new urban community of Westhill would need to be served by schools provided by the education authority, and the two school sites the subject of the appeal had from the outset been earmarked to meet that need.

The appellants contended that the only circumstance that the planning authority, or the secretary of state on appeal, was required to ignore in answering the hypothetical question raised by an application under

section 25 was the immediate event that had resulted in the applicant's interest in land becoming one that was "proposed to be acquired by an authority possessing compulsory purchase powers" under section 25(1), in this case the education authority's written offer to purchase. While those offers must be ignored, so ran the argument, the underlying requirement to devote those sites to fulfill the needs of public education remained and afforded a complete answer to the claims for positive certificates.

If it were right to confine attention to section 25(3) and (4) and section 30(2) alone, that literalistic argument might have some appeal. If, however, one considered the wider statutory context and the function of certificates of appropriate alternative development in the scheme of the Act as a whole, it became clear that the argument was untenable.

First, it flew in the face of section 16 of the Act, which provided:

"No account shall be taken [in assessing compensation] of any depreciation of the value of the relevant interest which is attributable to the fact that... an indication has been given that the relevant land is, or is likely, to be acquired by an authority possessing compulsory purchase powers."

Second, if (see section 25 (7)) the planning need to use land for a public purpose, which underlay a proposed compulsory acquisition, was not a sufficient ground to withhold a positive certificate where that need was recognized and provided for in the development plan, his Lordship did not see how the underlying planning need could ever be such a sufficient ground.

But the overriding consideration that impelled his Lordship to reject the appellants' argument was that it would, if accepted, defeat the essential purpose of the procedure for obtaining certificates of appropriate alternative development, as part of the overall scheme of the Act to secure the payment of fair compensation to landowners who were compulsorily expropriated, or, expressed more specifically, to ensure that when urban land, otherwise available for some form of urban building development, was acquired for a necessary public purpose, the compensation would reflect its urban development value.

Assuming, as his Lordship did, that every compulsory purchase of land could be justified by reference to the public purpose for which the land was required, to allow reliance on that public requirement to determine the question raised by an application under section 25 would lead to the issue of a negative certificate in every case.

Counsel for the appellants, recognizing that that conclusion would be fatal to his argument, had sought to avoid it by contending that the applicant for a positive certificate could succeed if, but only

if he could show that, at the date of his application, there had been one or more alternative sites available that could equally well or perhaps better have been used to meet the public need for which his own land had been proposed to be taken.

His Lordship unhesitatingly rejected that contention. An application for a certificate of appropriate alternative development presupposed that the land to which it related was in fact to be acquired by an authority possessing compulsory purchase powers, and a certificate issued would only be of significance if the acquisition proceeded to completion.

The availability of alternative sites was very relevant at the stage when a proposed compulsory acquisition was being resisted. But once it had been decided that site A, rather than site B or site C, was to be acquired, the fact that site B or site C might have been chosen instead before that decision had no relevance in determining the fair basis of compensation that the acquiring authority ought to pay to the owner of site A.

As his Lordship understood the decision of the Court of Session in Bell v Lord Advocate (1968 SC 14) he agreed with it and could find nothing in it to assist the appellants. Nor did he think that the judgment of Mr Justice Griffiths in Selmeisdale Development Corporation v Secretary of State for the Environment (unreported, December 19, 1979) lent any support to the proposition that the educational requirement in itself could afford a ground for the issue of a negative certificate. If it did, he must, to that extent, disagree with it.

Nor did the decision of the House of Lords in Devonwall Investments Ltd v Mortgage Corporation (1970) 3 All ER 864, that the strength of the prospect of a by-pass being provided elsewhere than on the claimant's land fell to be decided as a matter of evidence and could not be founded on any assumption, seem to his Lordship to be of the least help to the appellants, or, indeed, to be relevant to any issue arising in the appeals.

The conclusions that his Lordship had expressed were sufficient to dispose of the appeals, but the appellants had sought to raise a further question as to what was the relevant date by reference to which an application for a certificate under section 25 should be decided and on which permission for the certified development, if the certificate did not specify a future time, would be assumed to have been granted under section 25(5). Their submission was that the relevant date was the date of the application under section 25.

The secretary of state and the majority of the Court of Session had held that it was the date when the land was first "proposed to be acquired by an authority possessing compulsory purchase powers" in accordance with the definition of

that formula in section 30(2). If that was right, it meant that the relevant date in relation to each school site was the date of the education authority's offer to purchase, which was also the date for the assessment of compensation.

Having concluded that the availability of alternative school sites was irrelevant, the point as to date was entirely academic, since the appellants were unable to suggest that there had been any change in the dates of the offers to purchase and the date of the application for certificates. However, since the point had been argued, it was right to express an opinion about it.

The words "either immediately or at a future time" had been introduced into section 25(3)(a) by the Community Land Act 1975. It seemed to have been suggested to the Court of Session that they had changed the previous law, Counsel before that Lordship had disclaimed that suggestion, but had relied on the word "immediately" as emphasizing what had submitted the law had always been.

The applicant for a certificate, he had pointed out, was and always had been, required to specify the classes of development that he claimed, "would be appropriate for the land in question if it were not proposed to be acquired by any authority possessing compulsory purchase powers". He submitted that the words "would be" could only refer to the present, not the past. That was the beginning and end of his argument.

Again, consideration of the scheme of the Act showed the argument to be fallacious. The purpose of the certificate was solely as an aid to the assessment of compensation. Unless it was effective to indicate what planning permission would have been granted at or before the date when compensation fell to be assessed or at some future time specified in the certificate, it would not serve that purpose effectively.

In 1980 Mr Fowler resigned from the company and after the end of March 1981 he set up a new business of selling fish chickens from refrigerated vehicles.

Several of the Facenda company's van salesmen, their supervisor and two of the office staff entered the employment of the Fowler company. All were made defendants in the Facenda company's Chancery action.

Mr Fowler's refrigerated vehicles operated in some of the sectors visited by those of the Facenda company and the two companies served the same type of customer. They were in direct competition and there was no doubt that Mr Fowler intended to compete with the Facenda company, and also with other traders from the outset.

None of the defendants had been subject to any express agreement restrictive of his or her activities after leaving the Facenda company.

Facenda Chickens Ltd v Fowler Fowler v Facenda Chickens Ltd Before Mr Justice Goulding (Judgment delivered November 8)

In giving judgment against the plaintiffs in a Chancery Division action against 10 defendants concerning the use and disclosure of confidential material which pertained to the plaintiff company's business, the court reviewed the law as to confidential information in so far as it concerned cases of master and servant.

Mr John Treach and Mr William Hunter for the plaintiff company, Mr Peter Crawford, QC and Mr James Gibbons for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE GOULDING said the plaintiff company carried on the business of breeding, rearing, slaughtering, preparing and selling chickens. Of the 10 defendants nine were formerly in the employ of the company but subsequently became employed by the tenth defendant, Fowler Quality Poultry Products Ltd.

Mr Fowler, the first defendant, was in 1973 engaged by the company as its sales manager. He built up a van sales operation, whereby itinerant refrigerated vehicles would daily offer fresh chickens to retailers and catering establishments. There were 10 refrigerated vehicles.

Each of the van salesmen knew the names and addresses of the customers, their usual requirements, the route and timing of deliveries, and the prices which customers respectively paid. The last item was important because the company quoted different prices to different customers buying similar goods, depending on their individual circumstances.

That sales information became the subject matter of the company's action in the Chancery Division and of a counterclaim in the Queen's Bench Division. The company alleged that the sales information was confidential and was abused by the defendants.

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The writ in the Chancery Division was issued in September 1981. In that action the Facenda company alleged that the defendants had broken their contracts of employment by using the sales information to the disadvantage of the company.

As a second cause of action sounding in damages, the Facenda company alleged a conspiracy by the defendants, including the Fowler company, to injure its goodwill and connection by such abuse of confidential information and also by inducing breaches of contract by the customers of the Facenda company.

In the Queen's Bench action, begun in September 1982, Mr Fowler claimed for outstanding commission due to him by Facenda and in a counterclaim the Facenda company sought damages for, inter alia, breach of contract by abuse of confidential information (in effect a repetition, so far as concerned Mr Fowler, of the claim in the Chancery action).

His Lordship dealing with the alleged abuse of confidential information, made it clear that anything he said about the law was intended to apply only to cases of master and servant.

In his view, information acquired by an employee in the course of his service, and not the subject of any relevant express agreement, might fall as regarded confidence into any of three classes:

First, there was information which because of its trivial character or its easy accessibility from public sources of information could not be regarded by reasonable persons or by the law as confidential at all. An example might be a published patent specification well known to people in the industry concerned.

Second, there was information which a servant was to treat as confidential (either because expressly told so, or because from its character it obviously was so) but which once learned necessarily remained in the servant's head and became part of his own skill and knowledge applied in the course of his master's business.

So long as the employment continued, he could not otherwise use or disclose such information without infidelity and therefore

breach of contract. But when he was no longer in the same service, the law allowed him to use his full skill and knowledge for his own benefit in competition with his former master; and, in spite of words used to the contrary by Mr Justice Bennett in United Indigo Chemical Co v Robinson (149 RPC 178, 187), there seemed no established distinction between the use of such information where its possessor traded as a principal, and where he entered the employment of a new master, even though the latter case involved disclosure and not mere personal use of the information.

If an employer wanted to protect information of that kind, he could do so by an express stipulation restraining the servant from competing with him, within reasonable limits of time and space, after the termination of his employment.

Third, there were specific trade secrets so confidential that, even though they might necessarily have been learned by heart and even though the servant might have left the service, they could not lawfully be used for anyone's benefit but the master's.

In his Lordship's judgment, the sales information relied on by the Facenda company in the Chancery action fell into the second class and could not be protected in the absence of an express restrictive stipulation.

The defendants being free to compete with the Facenda company and to solicit its customers, it was impossible to say they must not use their own knowledge of the whereabouts and requirements of those customers, the prices they had been paying and the routes by which they were conveniently visited.

Evidence given in cross-examination confirmed the court's view that the Facenda company was inviting the court to strain the proper limits of the law regarding abuse of confidential information in order to make good its own omission to impose restrictive stipulations on those who served it.

The Chancery action therefore failed and would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Shoosmiths and Harrison, Banbury, Johnson & Gaunt, Banbury.

Credit for benefits

Barnes v Bromley London Borough Council

Assessing damages in a personal injury action, Judge David Smout, QC, sitting as a High Court judge in the Queen's Bench Division on November 2, rejected a submission by counsel for the defendant that the plaintiff who had given credit for half the invalidity and industrial disablement benefits received for five years after his accident, in accordance with section 2(1) of the Law Reform (Personal Injuries) Act 1948, should in addition give credit

for the whole of those benefits which he thereafter continued to receive.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the submission was founded on the general common law principle that the plaintiff should not recover in damages more than he had lost by the accident. But by section 2(1) of the 1948 Act, Parliament had made specific provision in relation, inter alia, to invalidity and industrial disablement benefits and had thus abrogated the common law principle in so far as it related to them.

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THE TIMES DIARY

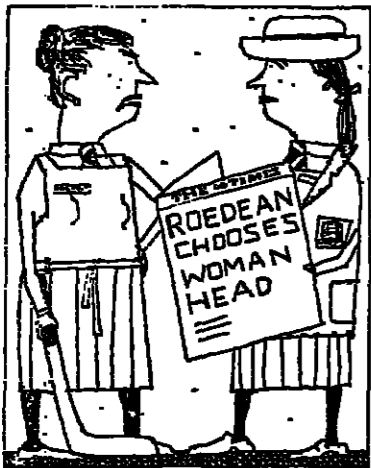
A bridge too English

Roy Hughes, Labour MP for Newport, has a new plan to get the Government to act over the long-running troubles of the Severn Bridge...

The other cheek

A savage attack on the Church of England is made in a book called 'When Will Ye Be Wise? The State of the Church of England...' published tomorrow by Blood & Briggs...

BARRY FANTONI



'Typical sexism'

Extending belief

Philatelists who belong to Stanley Gibbons's Great Britain Collectors' Club are invited to take advantage of 'interest-free extended payment terms' for orders of £90 or more...

Good sport

Dick Palmer, general secretary of the British Olympic Association, said last week that he didn't begrudge Los Angeles making a profit on its hosting of next year's Olympic Games...

Strip cover-up

Here's a political cartoon that got clean away. A lively strip cartoon showing Michael Heseltine, forelock-a-quiver, championing the right of council tenants to become homeowners...

PHS

Edward Mortimer paints the background to the Turkish Cypriot UDI



Friend and foe confounded

Yesterday's news of the Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence, according to Reuters, 'stunned government officials and diplomats in Nicosia'.

On the face of it that is surprising, since few political moves in recent times can have been preceded by so long and so public a build-up. Cyprus had been de facto partitioned into Greek and Turkish zones since the Turkish intervention of 1974...

Since then the Turkish Cypriot leader, Rauf Denktas, who was elected president of this de facto state, has repeatedly threatened to go further and proclaim full independence for the Greek Cypriots...

Some people did take notice in May this year, when Mr Denktas's mode of speech changed from threat to definite statement of intent. Reacting to a pro-Greek resolution passed overwhelmingly by the UN General Assembly...

equality" with the Greek Cypriots. He warned, moreover, that he would stand by his proposal "whatever may happen".

By the time I visited Cyprus in early June, however, a good deal of the heat seemed to have gone out of the issue. Denktas's scheme, it was said on both sides of the "green line" which since 1964 has divided Nicosia into Greek and Turkish sectors...

Ankara's view has been, consistently, that "UDI" would simply exacerbate the diplomatic situation, causing further problems between Turkey and her western allies...

On June 15 the UN Security Council renewed the mandate of UNFICYP, the force which polices the green line, and instructed the Secretary-General to continue his good offices. There was no reference to the contentious General Assembly resolution...

At the time, however, it seemed that Turkish Cypriot indignation over the General Assembly resolution had been assuaged, and that the matter would go no further. Later in the summer the UN Secretary-General, Javier Pérez de Cuellar, pursuing his "good offices" mandate...

diplomatic purpose, but they may not have been without some basis in truth.

The fact is that, although the Turkish Cypriots are heavily dependent on Ankara, it is unthinkable politically for Ankara to deny them its support. As with Israel and the United States the tail can, up to a point, wag the dog.

Pérez de Cuellar had promised to take into account the Turkish political content. It was of course standard for mainland Turkish leaders to say, in public statements, that Turkish Cypriots had the right to self-determination...

In private, Turkish diplomats would usually say that Ankara had strongly counselled against UDI but that, for lack of progress in the negotiations (adequate Greek concessions), it was becoming increasingly difficult to hold the Turkish Cypriots back.

obligations. At worst it is so many worthless pieces of paper. Its present pathetic status is shown by the line of immigration cases in the Court of Appeal in which the convention was invoked.

After some initial vacillation the Court of Appeal has firmly decided that neither immigration officers nor even the Home Secretary, in exercising his statutory powers, is obliged to take into account the provisions of the convention since it does not have the force of law in this country.

In the absence of the necessary legislative action by Parliament we have an incomplete and defective system of "public law" which can operate more as a shield for public authorities than as a protection for the rights of individuals.

The remedy lies with Parliament. Since Parliament, like the executive and the judiciary, is already bound by the convention in international law, there would be no diminution in the sovereignty of Parliament if it enacted a statute to make the convention enforceable in our courts.

Normally only the very young have fantasies of omnipotence. Growing up involves accepting the necessity for laws, rules and limits. A mature parliament would not insist upon the continuous assertion of its fantastical absolute powers at the expense of individual justice.

Only Parliament has the power to secure these rights and freedoms to the people of this country by means of a new great charter giving them the force of law. The time is overdue as we enter 1984.

Extracted from the seventh F. A. Mann Lecture given by Anthony Lester QC at Lincoln's Inn on November 9.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Overheating the gas issue

There seems to be some doubt about whether Melbourne ever said, as his colleagues departed from a cabinet meeting "It doesn't matter what we have decided, gentlemen, so long as we all say the same thing".

Labour governments have traditionally leaked like sieves: and in recent years, when a Labour cabinet minister who felt constrained to agree that the laws of gravity could not be suspended indefinitely was liable to face eviction by his constituency management committee...

When, as in 1980, there was a serious conflict of principle between what were called the "wets" and "dries" about the appropriateness of high spending or restraint in the depths of the recession, the wets of the contestants to take their respective standpoints into the public arena was perhaps understandable.

But when a conflict of apportion blame or credit for an increase in the price of gas or electricity as a very marginal item within an agreed strategy for next year's spending appears on the headlines, one is tempted to remind the contestants of the difficulties encountered by that other eminent Victorian, Lord Raglan...

And a rum old argument it peeps! Mrs Sheila Black, of the National Gas Consumers' Council, tells us unsurprisingly that they are "completely opposed to the use of British Gas as a milk cow".

Furthermore, such arguments are liable to divert attention from points of real substance. Unless we have all been vastly misinformed, the Chancellor will tomorrow report to Parliament that - for the second year running - the Cabinet has finally agreed to stand by the total of just over £126,000m for public spending in 1984-85...

That balance - the public sector borrowing requirement in the jargon - will certainly go askew because: taxes or spending turn out to be higher or lower than expected, for reasons beyond the Treasury's control. That is bound to happen. But there are two figures buried in the small print of tomorrow's statement which can materially affect the margin of manoeuvre: the contingency reserve, and "shortfall".

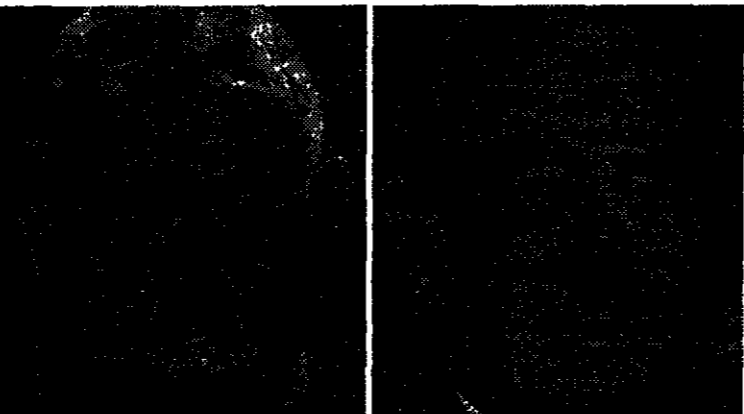
That total of £126,000m pencilled in last March included an unallocated £3,000m for the contingency reserve. Now that the various individual programmes have been slotted in, it may be legitimate, with inflation probably undershooting previous estimates, to have shaved that £3,000m in advance. But the smaller the reserve - and the larger the figure assumed for "shortfall", or the amount by which departments will underspend their budgets - the greater is the risk of a higher deficit emerging than the Treasury has planned for.

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Why deny us these rights?

by Anthony Lester



Lord Chancellors at loggerheads: Hailsham, left, says Yes to incorporating the European human rights convention - a predecessor, Elwyn-Jones, says No

In 1965 it was perhaps understandable that British ministers should have regarded the decision to accept the right of individual petition under the European Convention on Human Rights as one of little practical importance.

In theory the decision meant that the citizens of this country would have the same legally enforceable fundamental rights as the citizens of the other states which are parties to the convention. In practice, because the work of the Commission and the Court was still in its infancy, there was little in the Strasbourg case law to sound the alarm along the corridors of Whitehall.

However, once European judges had been empowered to rule upon the compatibility of United Kingdom law with the rights and freedoms of the convention, it should perhaps have been obvious even in 1965 that demands would follow that British judges should be given similar powers.

Within three years the first plea was made for the incorporation of the convention into our national law. Then, in 1974, Lord Scarman, in his Hamlyn Lectures, gave his great authority to the campaign to make the convention enforceable in United Kingdom courts.

In 1978, a Lords select committee also recommended incorporation, albeit by only six votes to five. Later that year, the select committee's report was debated in the Lords. Lord Wade, whose original Bill had resulted in the setting-up of the select committee, subsequently moved an amendment urging the Government to introduce a bill of rights to incorporate the convention into our domestic law.

In 1979 after the change of government, Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, attempted without success to interest the political parties in holding constitutional talks on incorporation. Understandably, he has referred to his "growing sense of despair and exasperation at the appalling conservatism of the legal profession" and at the appalling inertia of the political machine...

Ranged on the side of incorporation are two lord chancellors (Hailsham and Gardiner), Lord Scarman, two home secretaries (Brian Britton and Roy Jenkins) and two attorney-generals (Sir Michael Havers and, probably, Sam Silkin). They are supported among the political parties by the Liberal-SDP Alliance.

Lord Chancellors would not otherwise have been blocked by the political machine. If incorporation depends upon obtaining a political consensus, it will not happen in the foreseeable future. Parliament itself, rather than an ad hoc congeries of politicians, is surely the appropriate body to decide whether British as well as European judges should adjudicate upon the fundamental rights of the convention. It is lamentable that more than 30 years after the United Kingdom became bound by the convention, in spite of the publication of a government Green Paper, a Northern Ireland commission report, a Lords select committee report, and the passage of two Bills through the House of Lords, the House of Commons has not answered that great question.

Perhaps ministers and their advisers and the parliamentarians fear that British judges would encroach more upon parliamentary sovereignty and executive discretion than the European Commission and Court have done. Such fear is misplaced in the light of what is actually happening in Strasbourg.

Not a week passes without press publicity about cases in which the United Kingdom is defending proceedings before the Commission or the Court. The list of British cases is long, controversial and far-reaching: the inhuman treatment of suspected terrorists in Northern Ireland; inadequate safeguards of personal privacy against telephone tapping by the police; unfair discrimination against the British wives of foreign husbands under the immigration rules; inhuman prison conditions in cases of solitary confinement and segregation; unjust restrictions upon prisoner's correspondence and visits; judicial burling in the Isle of Man; corporal punishment in Scottish schools; criminal sanctions against private homosexual conduct in Northern Ireland; ineffective judicial protection for detained mental patients and would-be immigrants; the dismissal of workers because of the oppressive operation of the closed shop; the nationalisation of aircraft and shipbuilding companies without adequate compensation; the denial of equal citizenship rights to British passport-holders from East Africa; and interference with free expression by the Law Lords in extending the common law offences of contempt of court and blasphemy.

No other country which belongs to the convention system has been faced with so many cases of such importance. It is not the sheer volume of cases which is so telling, but the proportion of cases declared inadmissible by the Commission and of cases decided by the Court against the United Kingdom. The first individual application against the United Kingdom to be declared admissible was introduced within a year of our acceptance of the right of individual petition. Since then 80 further UK cases, some of which related to groups of applicants, have been declared admissible.

This figure of 80 compares with 40 cases against Austria, 38 against Belgium, and 37 against the Federal Republic of Germany, three countries which accepted the right of individual petition several years before the United Kingdom did.

Isolated in most of the democratic Commonwealth, we are also isolated in democratic Europe. Unlike the other member states, we have neither a legally enforceable bill of rights, nor a legally enforceable Convention. The citizens of West Germany and France have both.

Because Parliament has not given the convention its proper legitimacy under United Kingdom law, the convention carries the stigma of its inferior status in our courts. At best the convention is no more than an aid to the interpretation of legal ambiguities and uncertainties so as to ensure, where possible, that United Kingdom law is in conformity with United Kingdom treaty obligations.

At worst it is so many worthless pieces of paper. Its present pathetic status is shown by the line of immigration cases in the Court of Appeal in which the convention was invoked.

Paul Jennings

Pastilles and mortar, open for sesame

Whenever I meet people who say there is no wide rift between communism, with no advertising at all and capitalism with its vulgarities that accompanies free enterprise, I always want to take them to the nearest chemist's shop. For there is a restrained, decorous, almost garden-suburb quality about advertising, as though the Fabian Society ran the agency creating it.

Warned off sugar recently, and being immature (or something) enough still to like sweets (the more so since I had just warned a poet that as well as I have become addicted to something I called Sesame Snacks. And where do you suppose they originate? Nutrition House, St Leonard's-on-Sea. Surely that is in the great tradition of, say, the life-size cut-out of the girl in the blue-and-white-striped dress with the post-locked Koolha (what vest would have a pocket like that) that has only recently ceased to lean against all their open shop doors, as recognisable a symbol as their great alchemist's jar of coloured liquid. One imagines this being dreamt up, specially for chemists, at a time when patent-medicine advertising was at its least restrained.

Before the war, for instance, there used to be big newspaper spreads for Simpson's Iodine Soaks, showing pictures of great foaming billows, and lots of guff about the natural iodine in health-giving sea water, with which these soaks were alleged to be permeated. Even after the war there used to be ads with a drawing of a bloke in a Greco-Roman chariot, one arm with the whip, the other round a hair-blown-back, more-or-less-topical girl, with copy about health confirmed by - Sapatogen, Ses it, or Gensaprin, or Benger's. One of those, anyway. And who could forget all those lives so miraculously bettered after Horlicks had cured Night Starvation?

But not in chemist's shops. The people who created that wholesome girl knew they were dealing with a unique character: a scientist, a professional initiate in a mystery, a touch of the wizard, in some sort of unseen, Zbar, back room with pebbles and mortar and pestle and dissected frogs - yet simultaneously a shopman, engaged in trade. Although the trade does not seem the appropriate word, somehow, Pharmacia, perhaps.

It was after the war that the Ministry of Health published a List of Proprietary Medicines with a footnote saying coldly that it had "no significance as regards their therapeutic value." But who, anyway, ever saw in a real chemist's shop such things as Blinblow's Eucalyptus and Stramonium Cigarettes, Hunter's Nerve, Congreve's Hair, Foiner's Adult, Cooling Powder, W-12 Regulator, Little Movies, Langdale's Compressed

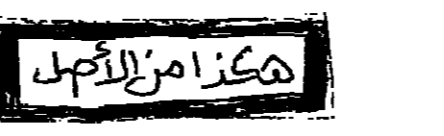
Self-Aid Peppermint Tablets, Odder's Linctus, or Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup, to name but a few? Now the multi-million-pound cosmetic industry is gradually forcing its way into the chemist's sanctum-shop. But even their great glass-fronted display units of make-up tend to have decorous names like Peppermint Pearl, Brandy Peach, Red Rose, Sweet Coral, Silky Beige, or even just Colourless, the most grate-appealing are only called Black Lipid or Peaty Blush. One has to be aware, as well, of stuff for men, too (I must admit, I haven't examined them very closely); but there remains a general impression of rather hard-working, butch-sounding names, Jollyjowl, He, Husky Musky, Gentleman Tramp, Hale Male, Sailor's Delight.

But none of these do sell things such as walking-sticks, dog collars and sun-bank Basks and many other non-pharmaceutical wares; and it is surely in their sweets and the names of those who made them that the true, ultra-dignified nature of pharmaceutical advertising can best be seen.

Apart from all that diabetic chocolates and barley "sugar" and soon, no doubt, diabetic licorice-all-sorts, they have wonderfully elegant circular tins, with healthy floral or pastoral pictures on the lids, containing rather grand fruit drops described as "glucose sweets for the morose", dusted with sugar - no, presumably glucose - as fine as face powder. Under a cardboard picture of a bearded, sou'-westered fisherman so Victorian in aspect as to recall vividly that nineteenth century narrative painting (or was it a photograph by Julia Margaret Cameron) showing a mother and children in a humble marine dwelling with the title "Pray God bring Father safely home", there are packets of lozenges, the Fisherman's Friend, which not only clear your throat but make you feel like a kind of healthy mothball.

In this department I myself prefer Proctor's Pinelary Pastilles, also purely pragmatic. But none of these beats Nutritional House, St Leonard's-on-Sea. I hope to am right in picturing this as the factory equivalent of a house designed by Le Corbusier. Lots of white walls, oak chests and cupboards, good solid staircase from work-rooms, where chintz curtains blow in soft sea breezes through the open windows, up to first floor offices with nice big old typewriters; sacks of sesame seeds, wonderfully aromatic, kept in store shed strongly reminiscent of Sussex tithing-barn. And of course a lab, with pestles etc. - if only to make visiting chemists feel at home.

Golden Oddities by Paul Jennings has just been published by Methuen, £3.95.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 15: His Excellency Mr Mohamed Mahdi Al-Tajer was received in audience by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Counsellors of State acting on behalf of the Queen, and presented his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the United Arab Emirates to the Court of St James's.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, today attended the Annual General Meeting and National Conference of the Association at the Grand Hotel, Bristol, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Vice Lord-Lieutenant for Avon (Sir Reginald Verdon-Smith).

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr John Higgs and Mr Victor Chapman, travelled in the Royal Train. This evening the Prince and Princess of Wales, Duke and Duchess of Cornwall, attended the Central District Dinner at the Manor House Hotel, Moreton-hampstead.

Fortcoming marriages
Mr J. J. S. Capes and Miss S. E. Allen
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs G. S. Capes, of Hatfield, Hampshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. B. Allen, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr D. Maybury and Miss M. Howard
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of the Rev D. and Mrs M. Howard, of St Leonards, and the late Mr B. Howard.

Sir Ralph Richardson
There will be a sung requiem Mass, according to the rites and texts of the former Roman Missal, for Sir Ralph Richardson at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and St Gregory, Warwick Street, London, W1, at 7 pm on Tuesday, November 22. The Mass will be celebrated under the indulgent grant of the Bishops of England and Wales, and with the permission of the Area Bishop at the request of the Latin Mass Society, 3 Cork Street, London W1X 1HA.

Dr R. J. Gilbert and Miss A. E. Waterhouse
The engagement is announced between Robert, eldest son of Dr and Mrs R. J. Gilbert, of Nottingham, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. K. Waterhouse, of Dullingham, Newmarket.

Mr R. I. S. Phillips and Miss S. J. Moloney
The engagement is announced between Roger Ian Sexton, younger son of the late Dr C. S. E. Phillips, of Cotteridge Court, Cotteridge, Worcester, and Sarah Jane, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs E. Moloney, of Brunswick House, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire.

Lord Wakefield of Kendal
The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr A. C. Gilmour at a memorial service for Lord Wakefield of Kendal held in Westminster Abbey yesterday. The speaker was represented by Mr P. Dean, MP. The Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Deputy Lord Mayor attended. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff, Precentor and Sacrist, and the Rev M. Q. Blythe, representing Westminster Building Society, read the lessons. His Honour Sir Carl Aarvold gave an address and the Right Rev Edward Knapp-Fisher and Canon Trevor Berson said prayers. The Rev Charles Taylor, Alderman of the Rev Peter Brook, the Rev W. B. Wilkinson and the Chaplain-in-Chief RAF were robed and in the sacrum. Among others present were:

Mr D. P. R. Knight and Miss M. J. Darroch of Gourock
The engagement is announced between Dickon, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Knight, MC, and the late Mrs Knight and stepson of Mrs Michael Knight, of Old Parsonage, Talkin, Brompton, Cumberland, and Melanie Jeanne, daughter of Captain and Mrs Duncan Darroch of Gourock, The Red House, Camberley.

Mr M. G. Wade and Miss V. S. Standfield
The engagement is announced between Martin Gerald, son of Mr and Mrs A. S. Wade, of Harrow, Middlesex, and Victoria, daughter of Mrs Joyce Alexander, of Old Bosham, West Sussex, and Mr F. G. Standfield, of East Meon, Hampshire.

General Sir Robert Bray
The Queen was represented by General Sir John Stanier, Chief of the General Staff, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of General Sir Robert Bray held yesterday in the Chapel of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. The Rev P. B. Denton officiated. Colonel M. R. N. Bray, son, read the lesson and the Right Rev V. J. Pike gave an address. The Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire and Lady Bulmer attended. Others present included:

Cartier advertisement featuring a watch and the text '3 GOLD, QUARTZ LC VENDOME WATCH' and 'le muet de Cartier boutique'.

Dr Margaret Klinowska, of the anatomy department, Cambridge University, thinks it likely that cetaceans use geomagnetic topography for orientation. When the sites at which live strandings have been recorded are compared, "the only feature they do have in common relates to geomagnetic topography... the live strandings sites are where minima or valleys in the (geomagnetic) field cross the coast or are blocked by islands".

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of Mr Gijbert van Aardene, Deputy Prime Minister of The Netherlands.

New secretary for Catholic conference

Father Vincent Nichols, Director of Upholland Northern Institute, Lancashire, is to be the new general secretary of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

OBITUARY

JOHN LE MESURIER
Sgt Wilson of 'Dad's Army'
John Le Mesurier, star of the television comedy series, Dad's Army, and a familiar face from dozens of British films, died yesterday in hospital in Ramsgate. He was 71.

Dinners

Lincoln's Inn
Princess Margaret, a bencher, dined with the Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, Mr Justice Goulding, and other members of the bench in the Great Hall yesterday it being Grand Day. The guests included:

Birthdays today

Mr Willie Canon, 41; the Right Rev Dr C. R. Claxton, 80; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Conrad Collier, 88; Dr R. M. B. MacKenna, 80; the Ven H. J. Smart, 57; Professor R. C. Sneath, 79; Sir Edward Tomkins, 85; Sir John Wedgwood, 76; Professor R.A. Wortley, 76.

Latest wills

Latest wills include (net, before tax paid): Baronet Mr Thomas Desmond, of St Austell, Cornwall, £405,877; Chand, Mr Ernest James, of Rosney, Hampshire, £459,255; Hackett, Mrs Mabel Louise, of Claverley, Shropshire, £254,519; McDonald, Mr Malcolm, of Conisbrough, South Yorks, £299,714; Bennett, Richard Edward, of Finner, company director, £385,568.



Baron Wilson of Rievaulx with his sponsors, Baron Shackleton (left) and the Earl of Longford, before being introduced into the House of Lords yesterday.

Memorial services

Mr R. L. Wessell, Mr and Mrs R. A. Wessell, Mrs A. D. Wessell, Mrs M. Wessell, Mrs J. Wessell, Mrs K. Wessell, Mrs L. Wessell, Mrs M. Wessell, Mrs N. Wessell, Mrs O. Wessell, Mrs P. Wessell, Mrs Q. Wessell, Mrs R. Wessell, Mrs S. Wessell, Mrs T. Wessell, Mrs U. Wessell, Mrs V. Wessell, Mrs W. Wessell, Mrs X. Wessell, Mrs Y. Wessell, Mrs Z. Wessell.

Mr J. G. Gilpin
Prince Rainier of Monaco, brother-in-law, and Princess Caroline of Monaco were present at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr John Gilpin held yesterday at St Martin-in-the-Fields. The Rev A. J. Austen Williams officiated, assisted by the Rev John Arrowsmith, who pronounced the blessing. Sir John Glegg, CH, read from the writs of Canon Scott, Lord and Miss Evelyn Laye gave an address. Others taking part included Mr James Mason, Miss Belinda Wright, Mrs Gerry Weiss, Miss Nadine Jones, Mr Nicholas Drumgoole, Miss Yvette Chauviré, Mr Robin Duff, Mr Kevin Darvash, Miss Moura Sympany, Miss Rosemary Reason, and Mr Martin Hobbs.

Dame Isobel Baillie
A memorial service for Dame Isobel Baillie was held yesterday at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre without Newgate. The Rev Arthur Brown officiated. Sir Keith Falkner read from John Innes, by J. H. Shorhouse, and Miss Beryl Reid gave an address. Sir David Glynne conducted the Royal College of Music Chamber Choir. Mr Andrew Pearman was the organist and Mr Charles Corpe the soloist. Among those present were:

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Science report

Whales stranded by topographical traps

By Tony Sanstang

Reports of strandings of live dolphins, whales or other cetaceans tend to attract attention; but, in fact, strandings are rare. British Museum (Natural History) records show only 137 live strandings in 70 years along more than 14,000 km of British coastline and in many of those incidents all or most of the animals escaped.

"Although at first sight the use of geomagnetic topography may appear a dangerous strategy, there are a number of good reasons for cetaceans to use geomagnetic cues", the author continues. Fish also use such cues, "and it would be of advantage for a predator to use the same orientation system as the prey". Many cetacean live strandings sites, in fact, are also known for fish strandings.

reasonable to suppose that live stranded animals are outside their usual areas, and hence exposed, perhaps for the first time, to the problems involved in following geomagnetic topography in coastal waters". Accounts of cetaceans appearing purposely to swim ashore "may well be cases where animals are blindly following geomagnetic topography to the exclusion of all other cues". Dr Klinowska concludes: "In anthropomorphic terms, the animals believe that they are travelling in the right direction and are as surprised on encountering land as is an inattentive driver on a motorway when encountering an unexpected hazard... they are to all intents and purposes normal animals which have simply made a mistake".

OBITUARY

JOHN LE MESURIER
Sgt Wilson of 'Dad's Army'
John Le Mesurier, star of the television comedy series, Dad's Army, and a familiar face from dozens of British films, died yesterday in hospital in Ramsgate. He was 71.

He was one of those dependable character actors whose name seldom appears above the title but who could lend distinction to the smallest part. He once described himself as the acting equivalent of a jobbing gardener - spending months on another. He lost count of how many films he had made, and certainly he was never short of work in a career which began on television back in 1938 and in the cinema in 1946.

rich comic creation. The exchanges between Le Mesurier's Sergeant Wilson, a good humoured, ineffectual ladies man, and Arthur Lowe's pompous, blustering platoon captain were a memorable part of one of television's most popular shows.

MR LIONEL ROBINSON
A. R. A. H. writes:
Mr Lionel Robinson, CBE, MC, one of the most respected of the older generation of antiquarian booksellers, died on November 9 aged 86. He was born on March 18 1897 in Newcastle upon Tyne, the son of Lionel Edward Robinson, a bookseller, and educated at Rutherford College in that city.

one famous firm declined to consider the purchase. Guided by a sure instinct however the brothers mortgaged their business and their personal assets to raise £100,000 and bought the collection, outbidding Sir Alfred Chester Beatty, the mining millionaire, and fending off competition from an American syndicate.

Established
Lionel Robinson would be remembered for his amiability and equable temper, his generosity to many private collectors who were able to buy books and manuscripts of high interest at very favourable prices, his benefactions to the Bodleian Library (to whom the brothers gave Philipp's personal papers), the British Library and numerous other smaller institutions, and his ready hospitality.

LADY BUXTON OF ALSA

Lady Buxton of Alsa, the wife of Lord Buxton of Alsa, MC, DL, chief executive of the Anglo-Group Ltd and of Independent Television News Ltd, died yesterday after a short illness at the age of 61.

OBITUARY

MOTHER PASCALINA LEHNERT
Mother Pascalina Lehnert, who was in charge of the household of Pope Pius XII throughout his pontificate, from 1939 to 1958, she came to play quite a role in the organization of his time.

After Pius died, she founded an order based in Rome. Earlier this year she published a book I Had the Privilege of Serving Him, about her time with Pius XII.

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Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, with the word 'Ara' visible at the top.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom center of the page: "مكتبة من الاصل"

United Arab Emirates

The oil bonanza of the 1970s brought undreamed of wealth to the seven small desert sheikhdoms. It dramatically changed the lives of the people. But today a more cautious mood prevails in this Gulf federation, as John Witherow reports.

On the outskirts of Dubai, in the middle of a roundabout there once flickered the Eternal Flame. The impressive arch built to house the torch is a symbol of the Emirates' prosperity; a tribute to the hydrocarbons which have transformed Dubai from a Gulf entrepôt, awash with dhows and busy little water-taxis, into a gleaming city.

The only problem now is that the Eternal Flame is out. With more than a hint of irony it has fallen victim to energy conservation in a federation of emirates ranked as the world's sixth largest oil producer.

The dousing of the flame is merely one of the signals in the United Arab Emirates that a new mood prevails. It hints at an air of retrenchment and a sense of uncertainty about the future.

Along with other Gulf oil producers the UAE is coming to terms with declining revenues and budget deficits, serving as a reminder that however rich its resources beneath the earth, it is a small nation dependent on world markets and sited in a region torn by conflict.

The latter has been brought home sharply by the heightening of tension in the Gulf as a result of Iraq's threat to cut Iran's oil supplies.

Iran's counter-threat to block the Strait of Hormuz and thus effectively sever 20 per cent of the non-communist world's oil supplies has sent a tremor through the six states of The Gulf Co-ordination Council (GCC).

While conscious that many of the threats are merely rhetoric, the oil-producing states have had to admit that the unpredictability of the Iranian regime could lead to such drastic action and that there is very little they could do about it. In effect they would have to rely on the United States, which has a large task force in the area to clear the channel.

Such outside interference would not be welcome in the Gulf, and it has played a part in promoting the unity of the GCC, made up of Saudi Arabia,

the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. Its recent military parade in Abu Dhabi, codenamed Peninsular Shield, was the first tentative step towards forming a force capable of providing a counterweight to Iran and Iraq.

The UAE, however, is fully aware of its vulnerability, and like other Gulf states sits on the edge of the war like an audience at an avant-garde play, fearful of being hauled on to the stage.

It is this in part which has led to a complex relationship with Iran and Iraq. Like Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the Emirates give financial support to the Iraqi war effort (the UAE's donations are said to amount to about \$660m a year). But unlike their Arab allies the Emirates have maintained good relations with Iran. The Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, recently visited Abu Dhabi, and the UAE has refused to offer sanctuary to Iranian political refugees.

The important re-export trade between Dubai and



Sheikh Zayed: a move to open Iraq's pipeline.

Bandar Abbas, across The Gulf, which includes everything from Toyota trucks to fruit machines piled high on dhows, helps to cement these links. All this is sufficient to prevent a deterioration in relations, despite a recent initiative by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayan, President of the UAE and ruler of Abu Dhabi, to open Iraq's vital pipeline through Syria and thus provide Saddam Hussein

with much-needed oil revenue.

But while their future may ultimately turn on development in the region, the Emirates are understandably preoccupied with their own economy.

Oil exports, which are expected to fall 20 per cent this year because of the oil glut and are perhaps half the amount the Emirates were exporting three years ago, have led to problems of readjustment.

Abu Dhabi and Dubai delayed the 1983 federal budget by several months and then announced that it would have a record deficit of \$1,000m. Recently published figures show that the trade surplus in the first six months of this year fell \$1.73bn from \$3.06bn in the same period of 1982.

Although the Emirates, and especially Abu Dhabi, are still immensely wealthy, the slowdown in the economy will have repercussions, some of which may become permanent.

One banker in Abu Dhabi likened the Government's reaction to a grandfather clock: during the boom days the pendulum had swung one way, and now it had swung the other. He believed it would only be a matter of time before it found equilibrium, with a more sustained growth rather than the surge of recent years.

Abu Dhabi's tightening of visa requirements, with the consequent exodus of Indians, Pakistanis and other expatriates, is just one of the side effects. The local population, which perhaps numbers 250,000 in the seven emirates, is outnumbered by about five to one by foreigners.

But the real problem facing the Government could well be changing the aspirations of its people. For years they have become accustomed to extraordinary growth with the concomitant results of subsidized food and fuel, free electricity, water, land, education and medical services. Even plants are handed out as part of the policy of encouraging the greening of the desert. If the administration is



determined to cut back on expenditure some of these benefits may well have to go. Already the subsidy on petrol has been removed and there is talk of electricity charges.

The government in Abu Dhabi has indicated that there will have to be 20 per cent cuts in the numbers employed in the civil service and a general streamlining of efficiency. But curtailment of state benefits is a politically sensitive area and one which Abu Dhabi, along with the other oil states, is only now beginning to consider.

As one observer put it: "The federation is only held together by money. Once that goes it will fall apart." While that is an overly pessimistic view, there are signs that an emerging educated middle class at the UAE's university in Al Ain and from colleges abroad will be pressing for a greater say in the future of the state.

In the meantime, it is acknowledged that after 12 years of sometimes shaky unity the federation is now as strong as ever. The illness of Sheikh Rashid bin-Said al-Maktoum, Prime Minister and ruler of Dubai, has in effect removed the strongest opponent of centralized rule, and Abu Dhabi's influence, partly as a result of its huge wealth and generosity to the poorer emirates, is growing steadily.

The army, trained and ready to fight

When the six states of the Gulf Co-operation Council exercised 3,600 of their troops in the desert of Abu Dhabi last month it was not by any stretch of the imagination a full-scale military manoeuvre.

It was, instead, a political message demonstrating that the Gulf states are forming a rapid deployment force to free them from military dependence on outside powers.

Code-named Peninsular Shield, it was the first military exercise since the GCC was formed in 1981 and came at a time when heightened tension in the Gulf has made the possibility of military intervention in the region all the more likely.

Other exercises, involving the air force and navy, are due to take place on a bilateral basis. The Emirates, for example, will meet with the Omani air force,



The two faces of modern Arabia. Camels still retain their popularity, particularly for racing, despite the intrusion of twentieth century values. Below: VIP Rolls with bodyguard.

and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will train together next month.

For the UAE, however, the operation highlighted one of the rifts within the federation: no soldiers from Dubai's defence force took an active part.

With a stroke of inspiration, Dubai, which would have refused to send troops in any case, was delegated as the federation's defence force during the manoeuvres and an

embarrassing situation was neatly sidestepped.

Although the seven emirates theoretically integrated their forces in 1976, Dubai has continued to run its own force independently. It is, in the words of one diplomat, "a

France within Nato. A quite extraordinary situation exists whereby Dubai has its own private army and buys the weapons it wants separately of

the federation.

With about 6,000 men trained by British officers and NCOs the Dubai defence force is a proficient brigade capable of handling any small scale threat to its independence.

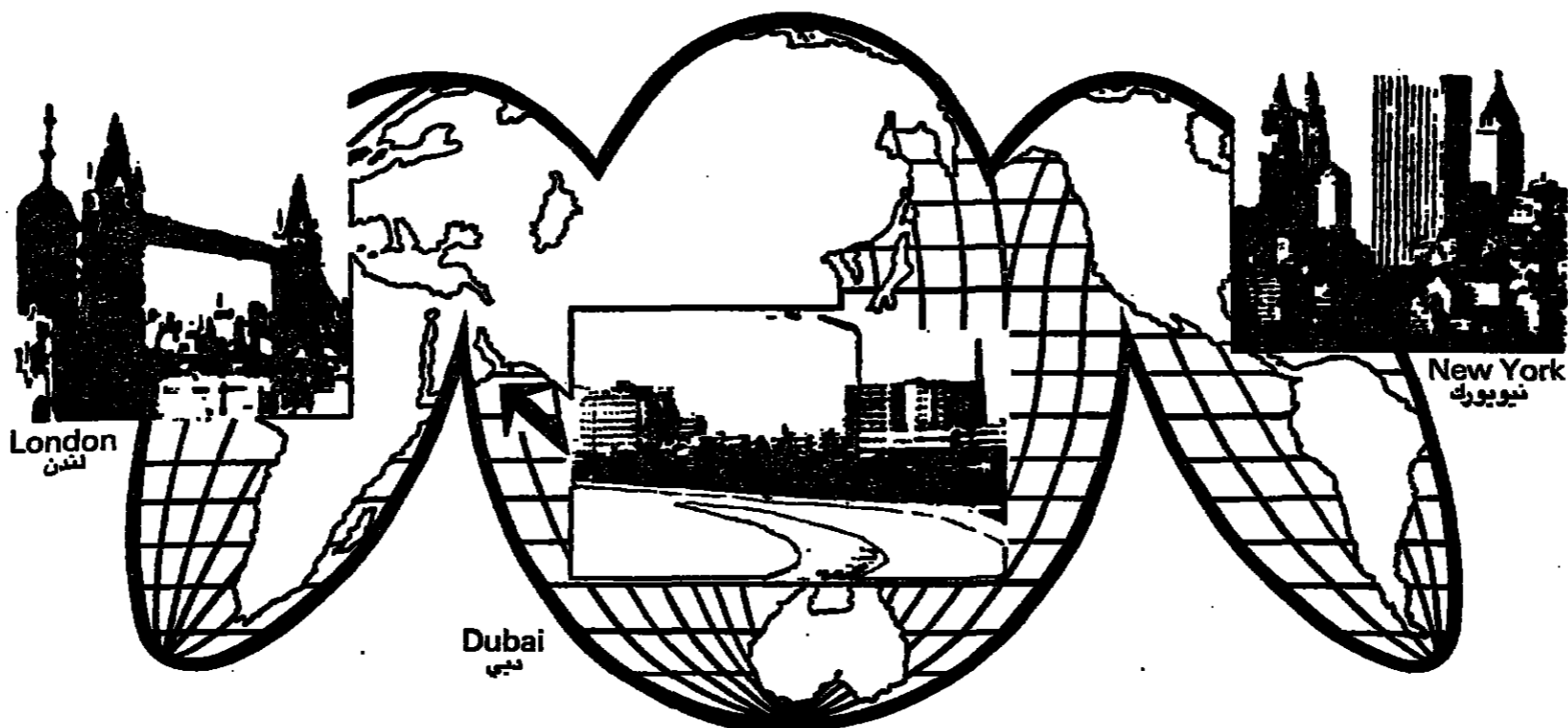
But naturally enough the bulk of the federation's 44,000 strong defence force is in Abu Dhabi, the biggest and richest emirate, where the general headquarters

Continued on page III

بنك دبي الوطني المحدود

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Paid Up Capital Dh. 455,892,000
Reserves Dh. 444,106,586

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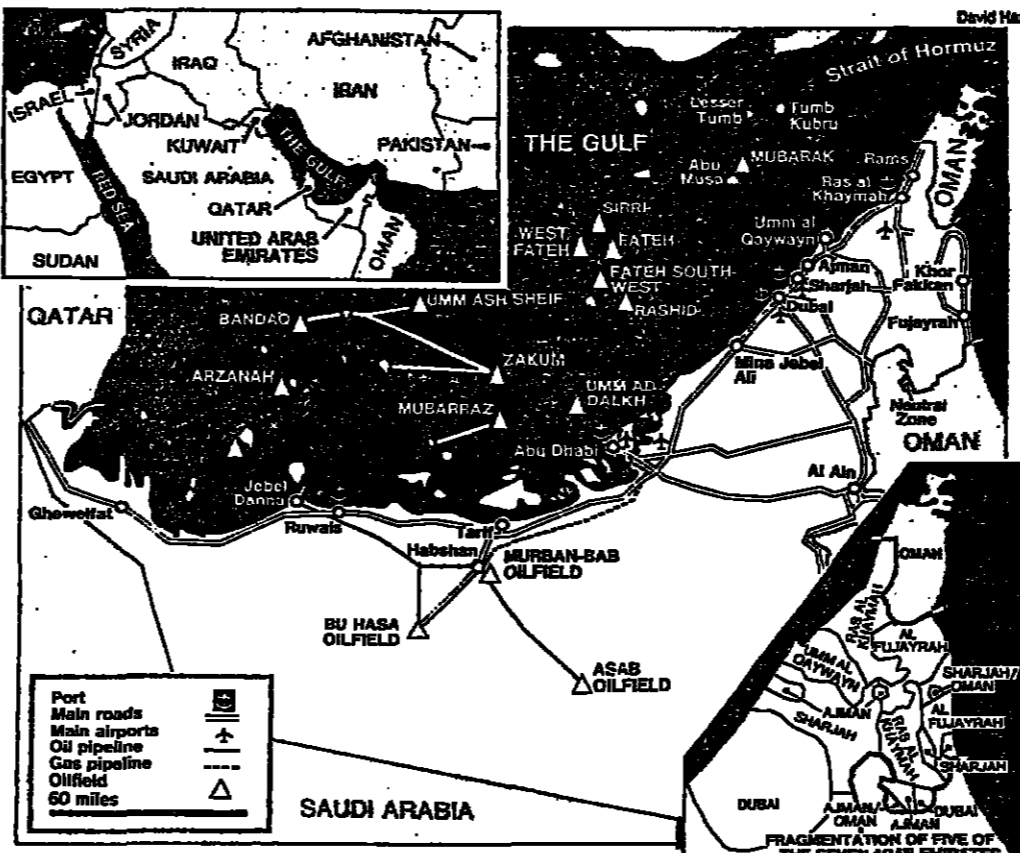
OIL AND GAS

The search goes on despite cutbacks



The search for oil in the UAE still goes on despite production cuts. Abu Dhabi, which produces most oil, is as busy as other emirates although drilling programmes have been cut. Elsewhere, especially in Ajman and Ras al-Khaimah, oil wealth is seen as an alternative to the federal funds on which they are so dependent. Oil reserves are estimated at 32.4 billion barrels and gas reserves at 810 billion cu ft. Production has been set by Opec at 1,100,000 barrels a day. Total production for 1982 was 462m barrels.

met by gas from the condensate field of Uweinat. The commissioning of the Bunduq field later this year could put more gas into the system but it is an unattractive crude in today's market and production will not be sufficient. Several marginal ventures - Satrah (on stream this year at 15,000 b/d), Umm al-Dalkh scheduled to produce 16,000 b/d by 1986, as well as Upper Zakum - have been partly financed by the Japanese to ensure future access to Abu Dhabi oil and gas. Most of ADNOC's oil goes to Japan. ADGAS raised a \$500m loan this summer to finance seven expensive new gas storage tanks.



The government has always seen a role for foreigners in Abu Dhabi's oil development and the companies have stepped up local representation to show long-term interest. Abu Dhabi has until recently left oil affairs in the capable if extravagant hands of ADNOC, but are now keen to be actively involved themselves. At Sharjah's Sagaa field ADNOC aims to raise production of condensates from the present 35,000 b/d to 55,000 b/d.

Trained and ready to fight

But the remainder come from all over the world: 32 nationalities are said to be represented in the UAE's forces. While Oman are there in large numbers, the higher wages have also attracted Pakistanis and Sudanese officers who have accepted a lower rank in exchange for a larger pay packet. The acquisition of arms benefited from a reorganisation within the procurement section. According to one source, more long-term decisions are being taken and less money and equipment is being wasted. The federation's air force has been reorganised from government spending. Abu Dhabi has ordered 16 British-built Hawk aircraft, which were designed as trainers but can be effective ground attack planes. Sixteen French Mirage 2000 advanced fighters have also been acquired and are due for delivery next year. French arms salesmen have been successful in recent years although Dubai, which has eight Hawks and Italian-built Aeromacchi fighters, refuses to buy French equipment. Other British weapons such as Blowpipe missiles, radio equipment and lorries have been selling well. The greater co-operation with the other GCC states is likely to improve the quality of the Emirates' defence forces and give them a greater sense of security about the Gulf. Although it is a long way from being as cohesive as a Nato-type force, it may mean that the six states can take concerted military action if the need should ever arise. In the event, the UAE, with its modern equipment and reasonably well-trained forces, could take an active role.

BANKING

Waiting for the paper tiger

"No change and not expanding," is one banker's view of the banking scene. "Too many of us chasing too little business," said another. Both welcome the breathing space caused by the downturn of the economy - as long as it doesn't last too long. Dubai, for instance, has had its share of scandals this year but the revival of the re-export trade to Iran, now at about 30 per cent of its former flow, has restored confidence. There are 51 banks competing for business in the United Arab Emirates.

\$500m ADGAS loan, but overseas expansion - with branches now in Washington, Singapore and Tokyo - has yet to show results. Other local banks include the reconstituted Banque de Crédit Commercial des Emirates, virtually a family bank for the Al-Nahayan family, and its holding company, Banque de Crédit Commercial International, registered in Luxembourg. BCCE has taken over the branch network of the international bank thereby meeting the Central Bank's ruling on foreign bank branches. BCCE is managing the affairs of the Khaleej Commercial Bank and renegotiating some of its loans.

The funding of the federal budget in the UAE deficit is still undecided. International banks are keen for the business but regard the federal government as a paper tiger, and any loan would have to be guaranteed by Abu Dhabi which supplies about 80 per cent of federal funds. The decision is likely to be a political one but local sentiment is generally against a loan.

The Emirates Industrial Bank, a government institution, finally opened its doors this year, offering loans at about 4 per cent for local industry. Most industrial ventures, however, are small and risky and the bank has been accused of being too commercially cautious in its lending policy. Abu Dhabi's surplus funds, after 20 per cent has gone to the Ruler and half the remainder to the federal budget, are handed over to the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) which owns 60 per cent of NBAD. ADIA likes a low profile, symbolized by its undistinguished character after it moves, probably in 1985, into a sparkling new block on the Corniche. It resembles Kuwait's Reserve for Future Generations, going for capital growth (mainly from equities at the moment) rather than income, but unlike Kuwait, Abu Dhabi will continue to depend primarily on oil for revenue. ADIA is also a partner, as the government's investment arm, in such Gulf joint ventures as the Arab Banking Corporation.

Meanwhile, the Central Bank has been trying to bring order to the scene. Some directives have been aimed at foreign banks and as many at local banks, many of whose credit lines have been over-extended. Foreign banks were already obliged to limit the numbers of their branches to eight by the end of 1982.

The UAE Stock Exchange, controlled by the Central Bank with headquarters in Abu Dhabi, is likely to become a fact in 1984. Bankers are sceptical. "We're doing it the wrong way round," said a local financier, "expecting the exchange to generate activity instead of the activity generating the exchange."



The Central Bank in Abu Dhabi - trying to bring order in a difficult time.

This year, the British Bank of the Middle East, most affected by the ruling, will close the last of its surplus by the end of this year. Abu Dhabi has also applied a 20 per cent tax on foreign bank profits, bringing them in line with Dubai and formalizing earlier agreements.

There is as yet no body nor law to impose order on the insurance. Legislation which may improve the present dismally low rates is still awaiting approval after more than a year of dithering, mostly because it is a federal law to be applied separately by each emirate and therefore requiring each emirate's approval.

Harder times are testing the stamina of smaller banks, usually family-owned so that mergers are more difficult. There have been suggestions that some might merge with foreign banks, giving the latter a local character in keeping with the trend towards more local participation. Many local banks were set up to finance their directors' projects, but loans to directors are now limited to 5 per cent of paid-up capital. The Central Bank has also established a ratio between funds and assets of commercial banks at around 6 per cent which compares favourably with the international average of about 4 per cent. Several banks have recently increased their paid-up capital which the Central Bank regards as a key to guarding the interests of depositors and to raising confidence in the banking system.

There are substantial differences between Abu Dhabi and Dubai in insurance matters. In Abu Dhabi all government business must go through one of the four national insurance companies. There is no such obligation in Dubai. Local partners may present another problem. Capitalization is still in doubt, with a possible insistence on capital of 10m dirhams. Such a sum, given the state of business in the emirates, would have most foreign insurance companies packing their bags.

The National Bank of Abu Dhabi dominates the scene there and laps up some 27 per cent of the market. It has been active in lead managing bond issues and this year led the huge

Meanwhile, the market is saturated and no new licences have been granted for some time, though the demand is said to be high. Foreigners hope the rates will improve and point to the fact that some of the national insurance companies have been getting together to shore them up. "The sooner that law is passed the better," said a local agent. "The pool's been over-fished for too long."

Advertisement for Gulf Air featuring the slogan 'Your best business connections in the Middle East.' It lists 10 destinations: AMMAN, KUWAIT, DHAHRAN, BAHRAIN, MUSCAT, SALALAH, DOHA, RAS AL KHAIMAH, ABU DHABI, SHARJAH, and DUBAI. Each destination is accompanied by the Gulf Air logo. The ad also includes contact information for Gulf Air offices in London, Manchester, Birmingham, and Glasgow.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Exchange rate instability could be here to stay

Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, had some gloomy things to say yesterday on the present system of floating exchange rates when he addressed the International Herald Tribune annual conference in London.

Wild swings in currencies over the past decade may have permanently set back the world economy and slowed the recovery, he argued. Nor could he see much prospect of greater stability in the future, a prediction where he would seem to part company from his more optimistic Treasury colleagues.

It has been the conventional wisdom in and around the central banking circuit that convergence of national economies on low inflation would provide the basis for more stable currencies. Not necessarily so, claimed the deputy governor, quoting from experience.

Exchange rates showed a persistent tendency to overshoot. "It is hard to believe that exchange rates have now settled into a more stable configuration... We must therefore face the possibility that unless something is done about it, we may have to look forward to another 10 years as volatile as the past decade."

The implications for the world economy of continuing currency instability would be serious, Mr McMahon, in one of the clearest expositions to date of the economic effects, indicted exchange rate misalignments on three counts.

It reduced investment worldwide by increasing uncertainty and squeezing profits in countries with overvalued currencies. "The result may be a failure of capital formation to respond to the usual extent to the current recovery in consumer demand in the world as a whole."

It rocketed up inflation because workers took real wage gains when exchange rates rose, but resisted lower living standards when exchange rates fell.

Most harmful of all, in Mr McMahon's view, it increased pressure for protection in countries at a competitive disadvantage, which was not reversed when circumstances improve.

"I believe that the substantial and enduring exchange rate swings of recent years are likely to have played a significant part in hampering economic performance and impairing the strength of the present recovery."

The answer, according to Mr McMahon, is a firm guiding hand from the authorities, through intervention and through fiscal and money policies, which make it clear to markets that governments care about what happens to their exchange rates.

Although rejecting a return to fixed

rates or a new Bretton Woods conference, he had some complimentary remarks on the European Monetary System.

On Monday, in the House of Lords, Lord Cockfield, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, delivered the official government view that the time for us to join "is not yet right."

The bottom line is what happens to the dollar, the lynchpin of the international financial system. If all countries paid heed to their exchange rates, Mr McMahon suggested in a thinly veiled reference to the United States, "we could begin to edge towards slightly greater stability worldwide." That would be better than nothing.

Questions over the Bank

In a judgment which carries intriguing implications relating to the power and authority of the Bank of England, the Treasury announced yesterday that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had confirmed the Bank of England's decision to take away the deposit-taking licence of St Martin-le-Grand Securities, a small licensed deposit-taker.

Significantly, however, the appeals body which heard the case rejected all but one of the objections which the Bank of England had raised to justify its removal of licence.

This is the first time that the appeals procedure under the 1979 Banking Act has been fully tested. In past cases, banks or deposit-takers which have begun appeals have later withdrawn them.

St Martin-le-Grand, a specialist merchant bank, lost its licence on the grounds that it failed to comply with the requirement that at least two individuals should effectively direct the business of a deposit-taking institution.

The Bank's other objections beyond this, are a mystery. But the appeals committee said in its full report: "Having weighed all the reasons set out by the Bank of England, we do not accede to its view that on any of these grounds the managing director is not a fit and proper person for the purposes of the Act."

It was also stressed that the committee found nothing which reflected on "the good name of the directors, managers and shareholders of the appellant."

The case is a peculiar one. There is no suggestion that the Bank wants to petition for the winding up of the operation.

It is clear, however, that the speed of the appeals procedure under the Banking Act leaves something to be desired since it was nearly a year ago the Bank decided it wanted to revoke the licence.

Enter plastic money

Within the next few weeks an announcement should be forthcoming from the banks on electronic funds transfer at the point of sale (EFT/POS). This is the name bankers give to what could prove the most important development in retail banking since the cheque clearing system. For the layman it means paying at shop counters and petrol station forecourts with a plastic card via an electronic network which automatically debits his or her bank account.

The latest thinking favours dividing ownership and voting control of a new limited company, which would operate EFT/POS, among all the banking members of the English and Scottish clearing

system. This is a marked improvement on earlier proposals which would have left control firmly in the hands of the big four banks.

More sensitive is the question of access to the system.

However, the banks are conscious that the issues of access is emotive and politically sensitive. Both the Bank of England and Office of Fair trading are taking a deep interest. They have accepted that there should not be any technical or price barriers to entry. The latest idea is to give direct access, and other opportunities to part through agency agreements with participating banks.

Lack of state aid 'will cause 10,000 job losses on Airbus'

By Edward Townsend Industrial Correspondent

The Prime Minister will be told forcibly today that failure by the Government to provide £400m of refundable launch aid for the proposed European Airbus A320 airliner project could cause at least 10,000-20,000 job losses.

Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of British Aerospace, said yesterday that the Government would face a resulting annual unemployment bill of £30m to £50m, plus redundancy costs for the corporation of £80m-£100m.

These are the figures Mr Austin will present to Mrs Thatcher when he puts forward the British Aerospace case for the continuing British involvement of 20 per cent in the European Airbus Industries consortium.

British Caledonian has already ordered the A320, due to



Sir Austin Pearce: "Opting out would give US a monopoly".

be launched in the late 1980s, but British Airways has not. The French Government has promised support for the project, but the British and West German governments have held back.

Sir Austin, speaking at a one-

Aerospace brought in about three-quarters of what it sold, for every corporation job that went at least three others would disappear.

It would probably be more than that "because for many of the supplying companies the UK production is their base load, on to which they add exports. Without that base load there are no exports and no company".

He said that failure by the Government to provide launch aid for the Airbus could mean British Aerospace going out of this type of business. "Probably the most serious aspect of opting out is that it could give the American companies a monopoly, and US companies are rarely generous to their overseas customers when competition has been eliminated. This would be a price the UK would have to pay."

Stenhouse faces bid by subsidiary

By Our Financial Staff

The insurance broker, Stenhouse Holdings, of Glasgow, was yesterday placed in the embarrassing position of contesting a merger attempt by its 49 per cent owned Canadian subsidiary, Reed Stenhouse.

The takeover tussle erupted after the breakdown last Friday of friendly discussions between the two companies with the aim of agreeing merger terms acceptable to both sets of shareholders.

Reed Stenhouse, which is quoted on the Toronto and Vancouver exchanges, is offering one Red Stenhouse ordinary share and 20p cash for every five Stenhouse Holdings shares. This puts a value on Stenhouse Holdings shares of 140.2p each, and a price of £53.2m on the group.

After a brief suspension, Stenhouse Holdings shares rose by 2 1/2 to 128p.

Mr Paul Stenhouse, a director of Stenhouse Holdings, and head of Stenhouse Western, whose family controls 31 per cent of the Stenhouse Holdings equity, said that the takeover terms fell short by quite a margin of the price which would be considered acceptable.

Although he had been a prime mover in wanting a merger, he would not allow the small shareholders in the company to be forced to sell out at the offer price. He said that the 140p per share offer compared with a net asset value of 160p per share.

Mr Stenhouse said that, in effect, the offer meant that the Canadians would get for nothing Stenhouse Holdings' 60 per cent stake in Stenhouse Syndicates, the Lloyd's broking firm; and a 20 per cent stake in Noble Grossart, the merchant bank.

Mr Stenhouse said that he also contested Reed Stenhouse's view in its offer document, that the majority of the Stenhouse Holdings board would accept the takeover terms.

Last night, it was clear that at least three of the seven-man board would oppose the offer.

Continental Corporation, the US insurance corporation, which holds a 21 per cent stake in Stenhouse Holdings, indicated that it would accept the offer terms.

Royal falls 19p on same again profit

By Andrew Cornelius

Royal Insurance, one of Britain's largest composite insurers, yesterday sent a shiver through the already nervous insurance sector by producing third-quarter results which were well below City expectations.

Pretax profits of £63.2m for the nine months to September 30 against £62.4m at the same stage last year and City expectation of £80m to £85m sent the shares tumbling 19p to close at 496p. Other leading insurers, which had been helped recently by the competing bids for Eagle Star Holdings, fell in sympathy, with Commercial Union Assurance down 2p at 185p and General Accident down 5p at 443p.

Mr John Howard, chief general manager at Royal, said that although there were a number of special factors affecting the third-quarter results there was a particularly unsatisfactory performance in the US. Underwriting losses at the nine-month stage increased from £78.9m at the comparable stage last year to £117.5m this year.

Hurricane Alicia which hit Texas during the third-quarter cost Royal £5.1m, while last year's good results of workers' compensation business deteriorated as competition intensified.

Royal is taking tough action to correct the underwriting performance and has imposed premium rate increases of up to 16 per cent this year on some lines of business.

In the UK the underwriting losses at the nine-month stage were better at £20.4m, com-

pared with losses of £25.7m last year. The results in the third-quarter were, however, hit by four large fire claims which cost £7.5m.

Mr Howard also indicated that despite the apparent improvement weather claims affecting the household account so far this year have been twice the level of 1980 and 1981.

The cost of theft claims rose by 27 per cent during the current year.

The UK results were helped by the 7 per cent rise in motor premiums earlier this year which is beginning to show through and has cost Royal the loss of only 15,000 motor policies out of a total of 675,000 issued by the group this year.

Mr Howard said that the board of Royal was conscious that all insurance companies were vulnerable in the present takeover climate in the industry. However, he said that net assets of the group had increased from £82m at the end of 1981 to £1,375m today and that the board would aim to produce a return on this asset that is better than any other management could achieve.

He added that Royal had received no takeover approaches. Total premium grew by 12 per cent to £1,438m during the nine months.

Costain bid to save Streeters

By Jonathan Clare

The Costain Group yesterday launched a rescue bid for Streeters of Godalming after Streeters' bankers declined to increase its overdraft in the face of uncertainty over guarantees in Saudi Arabia.

The directors have accepted a 20p-a-share bid valuing the company at just £21.5m "as the only way of ensuring that the company continues to trade".

Streeters' accounts have been qualified in previous years because of a legal tangle over work in Saudi Arabia and need for support by its bankers until arbitration was over.

Streeters' shares were suspended at 37p last month during bid talks; the listing was restored yesterday with a price of 23p. The Costain Group already has a 22.5 per cent interest in Streeters and has previously cooperated with it on main drainage projects.

It said yesterday that its interest in bidding was to retain Streeters' specialist skills which were complementary to Costain.

Streeters has a contingent liability of 7.2m Saudi Riyals (£1.4m) concerning a loan to its former Saudi associate. Interest on this loan is continuing to accrue and with it the contingent liability is increasing.

The former associate has been unable to procure a discharge of the loan and a cheque for 7.4m Saudi Riyals as security for the obligation has been dishonoured.

Streeters' lawyers in Saudi Arabia say the claim will be upheld in the courts.

New SE rule soon

The Stock Exchange Council is expected to announce soon that non-executive directors may be appointed to the board of member firms.

The new rule would allow representatives of those companies now buying stakes in brokers and jobbers to have some board representation. While limited partners would also be able to be represented, something that many firms, particularly leading jobbers, Smith Brothers have been arguing for some time.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 727.3 down 0.1 FT Gifs: 83.37 down 0.17 FT All Shares: 457.60 up 1.16 Bargains: 19,189 Datastream USM Leaders Index: 96.75 down 0.3 New York Dow Jones Average (latest): 1254 down 1.0 Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,379.29 up 30.77 Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 855.72 down 0.29 Amsterdam: 151.2 down 0.7 Sydney: AO Index 708.1 down 2.5 Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 1016.8 up 3.0 Brussels: General Index 128.16 down 0.79 Paris: CAG Index 143.3 up 0.5 Zurich: SKA General Index 293 down 0.6

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4855 down 5pts Index 9,379.29 up 30.77 DM 3.9775 up 0.0025 Fr: 13.09 up 1.0150 Yen 348.25 down 0.25 Dollar Index 127.9 up 0.1 DM 2.6765 NEW YORK LATEST Sterling \$1.4845 Dollar/DM 2.6785 INTERNATIONAL ECU: 5.70005 SDRE: 708536

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 Finance houses base rate 10 Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/2-9 3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 1/2 Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3 month DM 6 1/2-6 1/2 3 month Fr 13 1/2-13

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$383.25 pm \$383.25 close \$382.75-\$383.50 (£257.50-£258) New York (close): \$382.75 Kruggerand (per coin): \$394.50-\$396 (£265.50-£266.50)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Toshiba to make VTRs in Britain

Toshiba Corporation will start producing video tape recorders in Britain next April at its Plymouth subsidiary Toshiba Consumer Products (UK). The recorders will be marketed in Britain and other European countries in May.

Prices opened lower in active trading on Wall Street yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 2.03 to 1,252.03 shortly after opening. Declines led advances 529 to 353.

US industrial production in October was up 0.8 per cent after a revised September gain of 1.3 per cent.

Mr Sidney Cordier, a director of Microfilm Reprographics, has paid £1 to buy an option on 180,000 shares in the company at 40p each. That is a 45 per cent discount on last night's closing price.

The Severn Valley Railway, which came under private control in the early sixties, has announced a share issue to raise up to £300,000 to extend its existing line by 4 1/2 miles and build a new railway terminus in Kidderminster, Worcestershire.

Mr Richard Wakeling, aged 37, group treasurer at BOC Group, becomes finance director at John Brown, the engineering group, on December 12.

European Community Industry Commissioner M Etienne Davignon will seek agreement on export levels of video tape recorders and some other sensitive products to the Community next year, when he meets Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Sosuke Uno today in Tokyo.

Dawn raid nets 14.9% of West's

By Philip Robinson

Mr Ron Shuck's Espley-Tyas Property Group yesterday spent £1m in the stock market buying a 14.9 per cent share in West's Group International, the civil, structural and process engineers.

Espley announced it was a buyer at 10.30am and within about 15 minutes had paid 100p a share for the stake, the maximum allowed under rules governing the substantial acquisition of shares.

Mr Alan Fendleton, West's managing director, said last night: "The first we knew was when our brokers phoned us this morning. We are flattered that they think we are such a good company."

Mr Fendleton said that the "dawn raid" had failed to attract the company's three largest shareholders, Imperial Group Pension Fund, M & G and Hill Samuel.

In the year to the end of last March, West's profits plunged from £1.1m to £369,000, partly because of losses in its process engineering. The group has tackled the problem and at the end of last year a major property sale reduced borrowings from £4.7m to £1.8m, bringing gearing down to 15 per cent. The last balance sheet showed £5m of cash and net assets per share of 152p.

In the stock market last night West's shares closed up 16p at a new record for this year of 108p, capitalizing the company at £8.2m.

Espley-Tyas shares were unchanged last night at 79p. Mr Shuck said: "I shall request a meeting with West's tomorrow. I do not want to say any more at the moment."

Banks pledge over \$5bn in loans to Brazil

New York (Reuter) International banks have committed more than \$5 billion to a planned \$6.5 billion loan to Brazil, Mr William Rhodes, chairman of the 14-bank advisory committee, said.

Mr Rhodes, a Citibank senior vice-president, said telexes containing undertakings from Brazil's some 830 creditor banks were continuing to come in.

The committee was due to report yesterday on the loan's progress to M Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of

the International Monetary Fund. M de Larosiere is satisfied that enough money has been committed to the loan, he is expected to recommend to the IMF executive board on Friday that it approves Brazil's economic programme which has been worked out with IMF staff.

The board's endorsement would unlock previously suspended loans both from the IMF and the banks and would allow it to begin catching up on some \$3m of arrears that have built up on its over \$90 billion debt.

Trust takeover vote blow to Lord Kissin Guinness Peat chief wins

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Guinness Peat shareholders yesterday voted in favour of the board's proposal to strengthen the group's capital base by taking over the Moorside Trust.

In a surprisingly close poll, 4,009 shareholders controlling 45.09 per cent of the capital voted in favour while 126 shareholders controlling 36.56 per cent voted against.

The outcome is a victory for Mr Alastair Morton, chief executive and merchant bankers Morgan Grenfell, who have let no stone unturned in a campaign to dilute the shareholding of Lord Kissin, founder and life president who with other leading shareholders, had objected to the terms of the Moorside deal. Morgan Grenfell's fees are believed to be in the region of £1m.

Yesterday the Moorside acquisition was declared unconditional after shareholders in

the investment trust also approved the deal.

At a lively extraordinary meeting punctuated by about a dozen questions, Lord Croom, chairman of Guinness Peat, defended the terms of the acquisition, claiming that the board was advised that a second rights issue this year would not be well received and it was clear that a further recapitalization of the group was needed.

A spokesman for Cofi, a European investment company controlling 8.23 per cent which voted against, said the underwriting price of 40p for Guinness Peat shares was too low in relation to its real value and the dilution caused by the deal was "so great as to be punitive to existing members."

Cofi also said it would have supported a rights issue as did Mr Robert Kissin, Lord Kissin's son and director of the group who dissented from the rest of the board.

Listing as Henara group shines

By Our Financial Staff

An East Ender who left school at 14 is to float his private company, which makes the Henara range of shampoos for Boots, J Sainsbury and Superdrug, on the stockmarket. The flotation will include an offer for Dixon-Strand, the publicly quoted company which has its shares suspended during talks, but is already 80 per cent owned by the same entrepreneur, Mr Sidney Lerner.

Mr Lerner's private company - Henna Hair Health - has successfully pushed its products through the big chains with almost no advertising. He moved in to Dixon-Strand, which makes various cosmetic products, three years ago when his losses were running at £363,000. He has turned it round to profits of £250,000.

A new company will embrace both Henna Hair Health and Dixon-Strand and is likely to have a market capital of between £10m and £12m.

The minority shareholders will be offered shares in the new company, which will be called Henara.

Advertisement for Newscorp Securities Limited and The News Corporation Limited. Includes text: "All these Notes have been sold. This announcement appears as a matter of record only.", "Newscorp Securities Limited (Incorporated with limited liability in the Australian Capital Territory)", "A \$30,000,000 14 per cent Guaranteed Notes 1988", "Unconditionally guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by", "The News Corporation Limited (Incorporated with limited liability in the State of South Australia)", "Issue Price 100 per cent", "Interest payable annually on 15th November.", "Hambros Bank Limited", "Amro International Limited", "Banque Bruxelles Lambert S.A.", "Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A.", "Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft", "Crédit Commercial de France", "Samuel Montagu & Co. Limited", "Morgan Stanley International", "The Nikko Securities Co., (Europe) Ltd.", "Wood Gundy Limited", "November, 1983"

Tim Congdon on alternatives to the PSBR

The least vital part of the economic statement due to be made tomorrow by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, has already been leaked. It is the Treasury's forecast for 1984. The Treasury expects a 3 per cent rise in output accompanied by inflation of below 5 per cent and a slight fall in unemployment. On this basis, after 15 years of highly publicized polemics between monetarists and Keynesians, Britain is about to enjoy an economic performance which is just about mediocre by the standards of the 1950s and 1960s.

Financial strategy needs radical change

But the numbers seem virtually miraculous by the standards of the 1970s and there is a danger the forecast will arouse so much controversy by its optimism that no special attention will be paid to the most important element in the statement - the Chancellor's views on the future direction of fiscal policy.

If he follows precedent, Mr Lawson will give the latest official view on the size of the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) in the current fiscal year. He will probably indicate a modest overshoot on the £8,200m figure announced in the last Budget.

More interesting than the 1983-1984 PSBR estimate will be his thoughts on 1984-1985 and later years. Although it is very clear that the idea of a medium-term financial strategy is sacrosanct, it is not certain that the latest edition of the strategy, proposed by the former Chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Howe, in March, will be retained. This envisaged a PSBR/GDP ratio of 2 1/2 per cent in 1983-1984, 2 1/2 per cent in 1984-1985 and 2 per cent in 1985-1986, with no hint of a further reduction thereafter.

If the Government is to make progress in fiscal policy it must, in this version of the medium-term strategy, the strategy needs to be radically reformulated because of recent policy developments. It should also, if it is to have the right impact on expectations, be both simplified and made more ambitious by a commitment to a balanced budget.

The policy change which has invalidated the PSBR as a fiscal

target is the vast programme of State asset sales now being planned. Because of the privatization of British Telecom and British Airways the Government should receive about £3,000m from asset sales in 1984-1985 and 1985-1986, compared with figures of £1,500m in 1984-1985 and £500m projected for 1985-1986.

The extra receipts will lead to a reduction in the PSBR, but they are not a permanent addition to revenue and do not in any sense represent a genuine strengthening of public sector finances. It would be quite wrong to use them as a pretext for tax cuts or a relaxation of expenditure control. But that is what the existing version of the medium-term strategy, with its 1985-1986 target of a 2 per cent PSBR-GDP ratio, would allow.

Fortunately, there are readily available alternatives to the PSBR which are unaffected by special transactions such as one-for-all asset sales. One is known as the public sector financial deficit and data relating to it has been compiled for many years. While very heavy asset sales are being undertaken, with all the uncertainties about timing and valuation involved, the financial deficit is a much more sensible focus for fiscal policy.

Perhaps even better than the financial deficit of the public sector as a whole is that of central and local government. The purpose of excluding the public corporations is that they have large investment programmes which, if they were in the private sector, it would be legitimate to cover - at least in part - by borrowing. The

financial deficit of central and local government combined has been termed the general government financial deficit by the organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and, as the accompanying table shows, it is already quite low in Britain compared with other countries.

Whichever budget concept is taken as the centrepiece of fiscal policy, wrangling between the Treasury and spending departments will continue. But it does seem clear that PSBR target should, in current circumstances, be given less prominence than a financial deficit target. Were asset sales to dwindle or come to an end after 1985-1986 the PSBR could be reinstated to its traditional pre-eminence if the Government wished.

There is a drawback to having several fiscal targets simultaneously. Macro-economic policy is already littered with too many concepts, definitions and terms. Although this state of affairs is ideal for the pundits and technicians who benefit from the increased demand for their analytical services, it does not improve understanding of the Government's objectives.

The main function of the medium-term financial strategy is to warn wage bargainers that government policy will not accommodate inflationary pressures. What is required is that the Chancellor select one of the various concepts and call it, with no more fuss, the budget deficit. He should also say that he will eliminate it completely within two or three years and pursue a balanced budget thereafter.

The very simplicity of the balanced budget proposal is its main virtue. People would recognize, in broad terms, what the Government was about and respect it for what it was trying to do.

The central intention of Mr Lawson's Mansion House speech was to alter inflation expectations by stating policy stability as a policy goal. It was, in this respect, far more effective than most previous ministerial statements under the Thatcher Government.

In the November economic statement Mr Lawson should follow that success by preparing the ground for a return to a balanced budget. The impact of the announcement will be strengthened if the Chancellor lays down a well-defined timetable.

The author is economics partner of stockbroker, L. Messel & Co.

Coopers & Lybrand

The drive to cut public spending has fallen most heavily on capital projects, which are easiest to cut. Everyone agrees this is the wrong way round.

As a result, the proportion of public investment in the national income appears to have plunged.

Can something be done to alter these priorities without simply running into the problems of more public spending and borrowing?

This question may not be at the top of

MacGregor calls for change of direction

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, told the debate that if the slow decline of the country was to be arrested, we would need a symbolic change of direction.

Before the year, he said, £9m to complete the Queen Mary on Clydeside, and that decision was "totally electrifying" in changing Scotland's mood of depression. "We really need something like that today," he said.

"The government has not got the money to do this without borrowing or without raising inflation or both. Therefore it would seem to me that in this country there must be enough brain power to stimulate the economy without changing the rules of inflation. The correct procedure is to pick out some infrastructure projects that are self-financing."

This was not a new idea, he said. Mr R. Moses, the architect of the infrastructure round New York, had completed the project without state finance. It was a magnificent piece of financial engineering.

"In the City of London, the financial centre of the world, it should not be beyond the ingenuity of people to harness capital on a similar basis." He believed there were enough examples of self-financing projects around. "We should harness the people and the financial resources that Moses did in the 1930 to help to relieve the tragedy of that time," he said.

Earlier, Mr MacGregor said that the inflation of the 1970s had had more impact on Britain

The debate on public investment and economic recovery

It's time to rebuild Britain

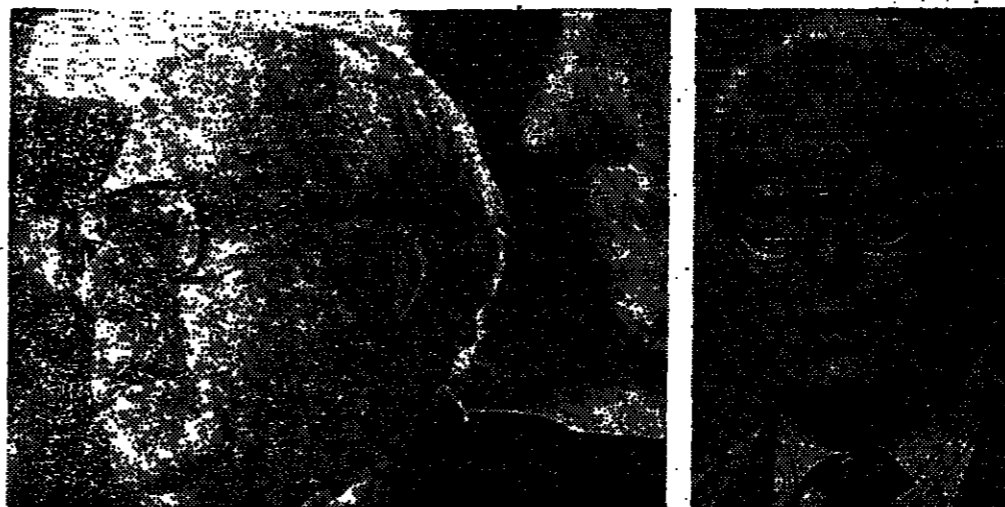
political priorities, but its urgency was demonstrated dramatically yesterday at a debate on public investment and economic recovery sponsored jointly by The Times and Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants.

An astonishing array of chairmen and chief executives of banks, to industrial companies and construction groups came to debate the issues with academics and professionals.

Professor Christopher Foster of Coopers & Lybrand Associates set the

scene in yesterday's Times arguing that public investment is the missing ingredient in the comparison of the present depression with that of the thirties. Then, at this stage of the cycle, growth picked up instead of slowing down thanks to a big rise in public investment in everything from basic infrastructure to housing.

Would a programme of public works cut unemployment and boost growth or merely lead to mere waste? Here is a summary of the debate.



Ian MacGregor (left) and Peter Rees: accord on inflation

than on any other country. Between 1975 and 1980 increases in unit labour costs were 35 per cent in the United States, 15 per cent in West Germany but costs fell by 1 per cent in Japan.

Britain increased was 78 per cent. "That tells the story; we lost a lot of ground," he said.

Investment must not hit money, says Rees

The Government will not finance any public investment programme that threatens to jeopardise its policy of establishing sound money, Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, made clear.

In his contribution to the conference, Mr Rees said that the government regarded privatization as the best means of solving the dilemma posed by alleged shortfall in public

investment. Privatization transferred investment decisions from the public to the private sector, where there were penalties for failure, and rewards for success.

Privatization was also the solution which produced the most efficient allocation of resources for investment in the economy as a whole, and did so at the lowest level of interest rates consistent with the government's objectives for inflation.

Mr Rees acknowledged that capital spending in the public sector had fallen as a percentage of gross domestic product in recent years. Between 1973 and 1974 and 1982 and 1983, public sector capital expenditure had risen in cash terms from £6.4 billion to £11.1 billion. This was equivalent to a reduction in cost terms of about 50 per cent.

This needed to be put in context. The decline had occurred during a period of severe shocks to the world economy, resulting in a rapid surge in inflation and two recessionary troughs in economic activity. Over the same period, private sector investment in Britain had

also declined in relation to, although much the larger fall had occurred in the public sector.

Mr Rees said it was important to be aware that public sector capital spending meant something different to capital spending in the private sector. United Nations convention had established, for example, that a tanker built for BP counted as capital expenditure, but that an identical tanker built for the Royal Navy counted as current expenditure.

Privatization and other asset sales had also reduced the published figures for public sector capital spending. Sales of council houses, for example, had reduced the overall capital spending figure last year by more than £2 billion.

Published figures also excluded capital spending by the nationalized industries where it was financed from the industry's own resources. In fact, nationalized industry investment had increased by 43 per cent since 1975-1980, which meant it had been maintained in real terms. This year, the industries' investment would

increase by 12 per cent, an increase in real terms. It was also important, Mr Rees said, to distinguish between different kinds of public sector investment. Power stations had been built, for example, but not roads, and oil rig facilities had been constructed which never built any oil rigs.

Given the lamentable outcome of so many plausible investment proposals over the years, he said, the government was right to examine any new plans "with healthy scepticism".

Extra capital spending could only be financed by government via higher taxation, savings on current spending, or by higher borrowing. Higher taxation was unacceptable to the government. Reducing the current expenditure was superficially attractive, and the government had made great strides, for example in reducing civil service numbers, but there were no easy options in education, health, social security, defence, and so on.

It was by no means clear that spending on hospital building was always a better use of money than spending directly on staff and services, and capital spending tended to lead to higher current spending in later years as well.

Table with multiple columns listing financial data, including 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' and various company names and figures.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Investing will not be jobless' and other fragments.

Handwritten text at the bottom center: 'مركزنا من الأصل'

The debate on public investment and economic recovery



Borrowing to invest 'will not cut jobs'

"Most people now would agree that there needs to be control of the money supply in order to hold down inflation", Patrick Minford, Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Liverpool, told the conference.

"More disputed is the idea that in order to control the money supply, it is necessary to control the budget deficit which in practice we define as the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement."

"The suggestion before us today is that public investment in infrastructure be raised and financed by borrowing (so raising the PSBR) and that this will reduce unemployment, besides giving us productive social capital."

"When the government borrows, it borrows from one group of people on the basis that future general taxpayers will pay them back. It is conceivable that the expenditure for which the government borrows will generate a commercial return or savings on future expenditure sufficient to avoid raising future taxes."

"But expenditure in the public sector is subject to political pressures which make commercial operation extremely difficult; furthermore, even if the project is truly commercial the same pressures will obtain indirectly to divert the revenues generated into additional expenditures in other areas."

"So public expenditure financed by borrowing will require future taxation. To say that the same investment undertaken by the private sector would generate a commercial return is to miss the point; the fact that the taxpayer is guaranteeing the expenditure removes this commercial status."

"The question that confronts the lender asked to buy the government bonds is perennial: will I be cheated? No government likes to raise taxes and it is tempting to default on the bonds. Explicit default carries large penalties, but there is a convenient form of implicit default: inflation by printing money (or 'monetization'), instead of raising taxes."



Patrick Minford: higher taxes not the answer.

"As governments borrow more, so the interest rate on debt tends to rise, and the burden on future taxpayers rises too; the political pressures for monetization grow. As the pressures grow, lenders become still more uneasy and require a still larger interest premium."

"Two things follow: a rise in the PSBR without an accompanying rise in the money supply can only be temporary; and even a temporary rise in borrowing will cause a rise in interest rates, unless market confidence is rock solid that it is temporary and that it will not lead to monetization."

"Suppose that for three years the PSBR is raised by £6 billion a year, this will be borrowed, the money supply targets will be held to as in the medium term financial strategy, and the loan proceeds (net of interest) will be spent on infrastructure."

"After the three years the intention is to raise taxes to pay off the interest on the loans (plus the maintenance on the new infrastructure) and the PSBR is to revert to what it would have been without the programme."

"We can examine three possible ways in which the programme could be thought to reduce unemployment: it increases demand in the economy and so demand for labour; it increases business profitability by lowering costs and so labour demand; it increases the labour-intensiveness of the economy and so labour demand."

"Output will rise for the duration of the programme and extra jobs would be created for that duration also. The programme over, foreign debt would be higher, output would fall back to below where it was before as the economy slowly pays that debt off."

In short, the programme would temporarily reduce unemployment by shifting expenditure, output and employment inot the present out of the future. There would be no permanent effect on unemployment."

Better and more infrastructure should lower business costs. This, ceteris paribus, would increase the profitability of employing extra labour and raise labour demand at any given real wage. Employment would rise. But taxes will have to rise

after the programme to pay for the interest on the loans as well as the maintenance costs. These will raise business costs.

Case for Severn Barrage scheme

The principal economic value of the Severn Barrage would be to generate electricity, Dr Tom Shaw, of the Severn Tidal Power Group, told the debate.

Several schemes have been considered over the past 30 years, but in 1981 the Severn Barrage committee concluded that the project was practicable and recommended a detailed scheme similar to the Rance tidal power station project in Brittany, inaugurated 17 years ago.

The Severn Barrage would be equivalent to two large power stations, generating 6 per cent of the present national output. It would diversify power supplies, use a renewable and predictable source of energy and have a very long life.

Construction could take up to 12 years, but the first power might be generated after seven or eight years.

The project would cost an estimated £5.6 billion at December 1980 prices. The five-firm Severn Tidal Power Group consortium has now started a study to find out if the barrage could be privately financed. The consortium hopes to report to the Department of Energy, which is helping to finance the study, within 12 months.

But, said Dr Shaw, the barrage would have benefits apart from generating electricity. It could also help shipping, industry, commerce, inland communications, tourism and recreation.

Why we need a Channel tunnel

Professor Ken Groves, chief executive of EuroRoute and director of the Constructional Steel Research and Development Organisation, spoke about the Channel Tunnel.

He said: "The proximity of wealthy European market and the ability to get there more cheaply and quickly are the prime considerations in weighing the case for a Channel link."

"There has been too much talk about whether we need a Channel Tunnel and if so of what dimension or perhaps a bridge if it could be built. There has been too little discussion about why we need a link and what form of traffic it should serve. Only when we are agreed on this can an appropriate civil engineering solution be devised."

He said a growing volume of British exports go to Europe which takes over 50 per cent of our trade. "In 1972, we exported £4,200m worth of goods across the Channel. In 1980 this had risen to £28,900m a sevenfold increase. The increase in trade had caused unutilized freight to grow from 6.5 million tonnes in 1971 to 18 million tonnes in 1980. But the important point was that within the figure, road haulage had increased from 2.7 million to 12.0 million tonnes in a decade."

Three groups of schemes had been submitted to the French and British governments by consortiums interested in participating in their construction. "These are railway tunnels, either single or double track with and without the ability to carry road vehicles on trains. Large road only suspension bridges of spans greater than those ever built before over estuaries, and the EuroRoute bridge and tunnel scheme for road and rail traffic."

"The latter is the most comprehensive scheme, engineered and costed out by Mott Hay and Anderson with the contractors at between £4.06 billion and £4.40 billion at January, 1983 prices. Construction could start in 1985 and be completed in 1992. There would be four lanes of traffic."

Prof Groves pointed out that although the case for EuroRoute was a commercial one, there were other benefits. One hundred thousand jobs would be created in Europe by building the crossing. About 53,000 of these would be directly related to the construction, the remainder being generated by the multiplier effect of increased spending.

One might assume 50 per cent of the jobs would be in Britain.

Dual reasons for prison investment

Mr Christopher Train, the director general of the Prison Service, spoke about prison building.

economic grounds, "in terms for example of the role of the capital investment it involves in stimulating economic recovery."

But that he said, was an incidental benefit and not the primary purpose.

Mr Train said: "There are about 120 penal establishments in England and Wales. They do not form a single system but a series of part separate, part overlapping systems."

All the 9 country houses, he said, had accommodation for 150 or fewer, and several of the camps were sub-economic in size. Rationalization here was highly desirable if proper use was to be made of scarce manpower and other resources.

The second important point is our total dependence on the obsolete Victorian estate, not just in terms of housing the majority of inmates - 25,000 out of 43,500 - but also of taking the whole of the current 5,000 excess of population over certified accommodation.

Mr Train continued: Some argue that the real solution to the problem of prison conditions lies in penal policy, rather than capital investment: in other words that action should be taken on the demand, rather than the supply, side.

Talking about the new prison building programme, he said that it would involve additional construction expenditure of about £170m, with the private construction industry doing that work also.

A prison brings considerable economic benefit to the surrounding community. With allowances and the substantial amounts of overtime worked throughout most of the prison service, a basic grade prison officer earns about £10,000 a year. That means that even a medium sized establishment is likely to generate between £60,000 and £70,000 a week of spending power on the part of staff.

It is, I think, axiomatic that so central an aspect of the machinery of the state as the administration of its penal system should not be conducted by a private agency.

"To that extent, it is inevitable that the government has the paramount interest in securing adequate provision of prison places."

Money for roads could help stop city decay

Society faces choices in inner city areas especially London, Mr Terrell Wyatt, chairman of Costain, told the symposium.

Either we provide the traffic arteries, or inner city areas will decay. Transport of goods and

people are as important to a city as a supply of blood to parts of the body. Without it, gangrene sets in, he said.

What was needed in London and elsewhere sound finance which required that soundly-invested taxpayers money to meet the needs of society was not thrown away, as in over-manning in the Government's own services; private sector finance for urban roads where appropriate; and imaginative design solutions, avoiding the damage done in the past by roads like Westway in West London.

The situation in London, with the greatest concentration of population and the greatest need for roads, was a scandal, Mr Wyatt said.

While public transport and traffic management should make the greatest possible contribution, there was still a need for "sensitive and imaginative" new roads, to quote the recent White Paper.

Without these roads, inner city decline would continue, while growth industries were attracted to good communication links like the M4 western corridor, and the M25 orbital motorway, particularly near the intersections.

"The need is for political will", Mr Wyatt said. "Our political institutions and administration are there to serve society. They fail society because the time perspective of a four to five year Parliament is too short."

Call for development agency to take risks

Mr Allen Sykes, a director of Willis Faber, said that dramatic organizational and political changes would have to occur before such projects as a Severn tunnel became feasible.

Given the present political and organizational obstacles it would be years before any project such as the tunnel could get through the planning process by which time it would be years too late to make any contribution to the present recession.

One possible solution would be to set up a new vehicle such as a development agency with extensive powers and the opportunities to take the risks.

Mr E P Beck, chairman of John Mowlem, said that the construction industry had been exploring ways of joint building between the public and private sectors. But it had found Treasury flexibility had been a big obstacle to getting something done.

Mr Willem Buiters, Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics, said that "live now, pay later" was not necessarily a recipe for disaster, "as long as you are prepared to

pay later". He said that Britain was held back by antiquated Victorian capital equipment.

Mr Andrew Britton, the director of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, said that any project should be undertaken on its merits, which might not necessarily be monetary.

Cooperation needed to succeed in new projects

Mr Brandon Gough, senior partner of Coopers and Lybrand, concluding the debate, said: "From the projects described today it is possible to distinguish three categories of investment project. There are those, such as prison building, clearly only likely to be suitable for public investment, whatever the theoretically possible role of leaseback schemes may be."

"At the other extreme there are schemes, from which there are clearly identifiable income streams and which should probably be left to the private sector to sink or swim on their financial merits."

"However, there is an important intermediate category of projects which presents difficulties for both the public and private sectors. They involve

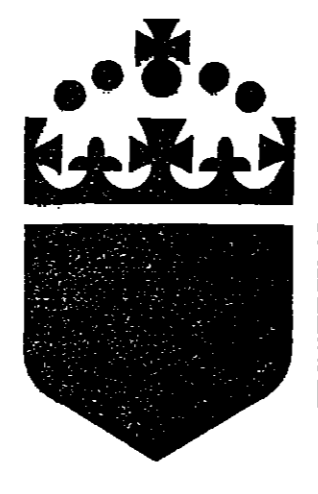
vast sums of money, they are crunched in the complexities of the regulatory and planning framework; and they require long lead times before returns are produced.

"This kind of scheme needs careful commercial assessment and should be managed and controlled in such a way that there are clear penalties for failure. Unfortunately, the public sector has an unhappy record in identifying, managing and controlling such schemes."

Mr Gough said that the schemes require the cooperative effort of the private sector and Government.

He said that a new institutional framework would be needed, and proposed, the establishment of an institution straddling the public and private sectors, appraising the controlling projects, channelling funds and ensuring that risks were fairly matched by potential reward.

It would be a means of channelling private sector funds and management disciplines to major projects, and ensuring that government backing is adequately rewarded. And it should, as far as possible, remove "the dead hand of general public expenditure restraint and the Public Sector borrowing requirement from much needed capital investment which promises good returns to those who finance it and to the nation as a whole".



Royal Insurance

Estimated Nine Months Results for 1983

	9 months to 30 Sept 1983	9 months to 30 Sept 1982	Year 1982
	(unaudited) £m	(unaudited) £m	(audited) £m
General Insurance: Premiums Written	1,438.8	1,285.6	1,700.2
Underwriting Balance	-163.4	-129.9	-166.1
Investment Income allocated to General Insurance operations	148.3	134.0	180.8
General Insurance Result	-15.1	4.1	14.7
Long-term Insurance Profit	12.8	10.0	13.6
Investment Income attributable to Capital and Reserves	57.3	42.5	60.5
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	8.2	5.8	7.7
Profit before Taxation	63.2	62.4	96.5
Less Taxation	11.6	10.7	22.6
Minority Interests	0.0	0.6	1.0
Net Profit attributable to the Shareholders (Pence per share)	51.6 (27.4p)	51.1 (27.1p)	72.9 (38.7p)
Capital and Reserves	£1,375m	£1,027m	£1,225m

Exchange Rates
Foreign currencies have been translated according to our normal practice at approximately the average rates of exchange ruling during the period. The principal rates were:—

	9 months to 30 Sept 1983	9 months to 30 Sept 1982	Year 1982
USA	\$1.53	\$1.78	\$1.75
Canada	\$1.88	\$2.20	\$2.15
Australia	\$1.71	\$1.72	\$1.72
Netherlands	Fls4.30	Fls4.72	Fls4.66

Changes in exchange rates adversely affected the underwriting balance by £16.8m. Overall the profit before taxation benefited by £1.4m.

Investment Income
Total investment income of £205.6m increased in sterling terms by 16.2%; allowing for changes in the rates of exchange the growth was some 6 1/2%.

General Insurance
Premium income rose by almost 12% in sterling; allowing for the effect of currency changes, the increase was 3%. Details for the individual operating companies are as follows:—

In the United States premium income, including that of Millbank Insurance Company, was marginally lower in dollar terms compared with last year. The operating ratio was 116.1% (113.3%). The deterioration was mainly attributable to a substantial worsening in the workers compensation account and exceptionally heavy weather related losses in the third quarter, including £6.1m arising from Hurricane Alicia. Whilst commercial multi-peril and automobile business losses continued at a very high level, some improvement is beginning to show through in these lines from remedial actions taken. The underlying trend in homeowners business is improving. Market conditions still remain highly competitive, but against the background of such an unsatisfactory result we are maintaining our firm stance on rating increases.

Royal UK's premium volume increased by some 6%. The lower level of weather losses earlier in the year, compared with those in 1982, helped to produce an improvement in the result. Better experience in personal lines was offset to some extent by a worsening in most commercial lines, with the commercial fire account suffering several large losses in the third quarter. In the Republic of Ireland there was an adverse underwriting balance of £2.3m (£2.4m).

The significant improvement in the result starting last year in Canada has continued. There has been a further slowing in the rate of loss of business.

The result for Royal Int arose from a sharp increase in the number of large fire and weather claims, mainly in Western Europe, and a further worsening of motor results in most territories.

There was a continued improvement in the result in Australia despite the effect of the bush fires in February. Premium growth remained strong particularly in commercial business.

The result for Royal Nederland continued to be affected by competitive pressures in the large motor account. Most other lines of business showed improvement over last year. Premium income fell by 6% in local currency terms.

The deterioration in Royal Re's facultative and home foreign business continued and there was a worsening in the experience on the treaty account.

Royal Life Insurance
During the nine months ended 30th September 1983 new annual premiums written by Royal Life increased by 146% to £44.4m and new single premiums increased by 100% to £60m. The significant rise in new annual premiums was largely the result of a substantial increase in endowment mortgage business following the introduction of the new system of crediting tax relief on mortgage interest (MIRAS) in the UK. Sales of unit-linked business and immediate annuity business have also been very satisfactory.

The long-term insurance profit of £12.8m (£10m) represents three quarters of the estimated contribution for the whole year.

	9 months to 30 Sept 1983				9 months to 30 Sept 1982			
	Premiums Written £m	Under-Writing Balance £m	Allocated Investment Income £m	General Insurance Result £m	Premiums Written £m	Under-Writing Balance £m	Allocated Investment Income £m	General Insurance Result £m
Royal USA	614.8	-117.5	67.1	-50.4	532.9	-78.9	54.7	-24.2
Royal UK	398.5	-20.4	40.8	20.4	375.2	-25.7	39.3	13.6
Royal Canada	152.4	-5.4	20.3	14.9	140.4	-13.3	20.9	7.6
Royal Int.	93.3	-6.5	5.8	-0.7	88.2	-2.0	5.3	3.3
Royal Australia	76.3	-3.6	6.5	2.9	54.5	-4.2	6.2	2.0
Royal Nederland	52.1	-3.2	4.7	1.5	50.5	-2.6	5.0	2.4
Royal Re	51.4	-6.8	3.1	-3.7	43.9	-3.2	2.6	-0.6
	1,438.8	-163.4	148.3	-15.1	1,285.6	-129.9	134.0	4.1

New Young brewery pays off

Young and Co's Brewery Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £1.8m (£1.2m) Turnover £16.2m (£15.4m) Net interim dividend 2.5p (2p) Share price 280p, up 5p

Like other brewers, Young and Co's Brewery was dismayed that the good summer did not have such an uplifting effect on sales as expected.

But the benefits of the new brewery in south-west London and the new team of young managers helped to increase profits by 30 per cent, despite a 5.9 per cent fall in volume sales.

Young is particularly sensitive to summer weather as many of its customers go abroad for their holidays. Further benefits from the new brewery - the contractors only left two weeks ago - will continue to arise in the second half.

Although Young is famed for its traditional beers, there has been a substantial shift towards higher lager sales. During the first six months, these increased by 8.9 per cent, with every sign of the trend continuing.

A second big contributor to the good results was the changeover to managed pubs in place of tenancies.

City unimpressed as HAT raises profits 19%

HAT Group Half-year to 31.8.83 Pretax profit £3.9m (3.3m) Stated earnings 3.75p (3.54p) Turnover £80m (81.5m) Net interim dividend 1.65p (1.5p) Share price 111p Yield 4.2% Dividend payable 28.2.84

Perhaps the best illustration of City attitudes to the widely diversified HAT Group is that an 18.7 per cent increase in pretax profits caused a 7p fall in the share price to 111p.

That illustration goes some way to explaining the caution that should be exercised over a share that has reached near glamour status levels.

Over the last five years, both turnover and growth have grown dynamically. Turnover has risen from £64m in 1978 to an expected £160m this year and pretax profits from £2.1m to an expected £7.8m.

Much of that growth is owed to the vision and work of its young chairman Mr David Telling. His vision of the group's future sees that growth being projected into three major areas.

In Britain the painting, building materials and building service side coupled with cleaning can be combined to offer a full maintenance con-

tract to leading blue chip companies.

A management subsidiary will then hire out all of HAT's services to offer a service which handles all building maintenance and cleaning.

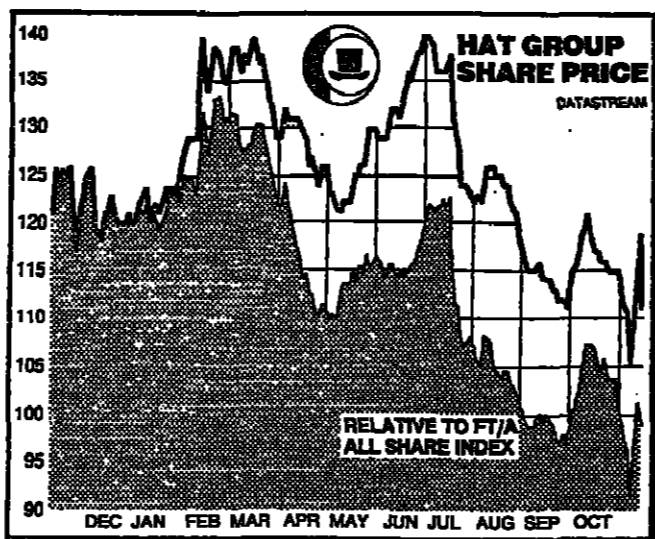
Second, in the US, an infrastructure can be built up which can effectively match the British operations.

Third, he sees the Far East operations, where HAT already has the Shell/Brunel contract to paint literally hundreds of drilling rigs, expanding so that British expertise is employed by the big British corporations operating in the area.

But Mr Telling would be the first to admit that even after last summer's £14.5m rights issue, HAT has nowhere near enough money to finance such an expansion.

Yet that expansion is well under way. HAT already works for BP, which is operating offshore from China. The US operations are growing quickly, and the all-encompassing service to companies in Britain looks feasible after winning a contract from IBM.

So can HAT group, where the Telling family holds 10 per cent, finance that expansion without a takeover?



Sketchley

SKETCHLEY Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £5.7m (4.4m) Stated earnings 16.1p (12.1p) Turnover £49m (35.6m) Net interim dividend 4.1p (3.8p) Share price 418, up 7p. Yield 4.1% Dividend payable 15.12.83

Sketchley, the industrial workwear, linen hire and dry-cleaning group has made a point of

keeping its head down in the recent washbasin battles. But it has been seriously affected by the outcome. The Office of Fair Trading, by refusing the cleaning groups permission to expand by acquisition, has virtually forced them into seeking expansion abroad.

And for both Pritchard and Sketchley that has meant moving into the USA. Sketchley, fortunately, has so far done well

American operations, in just 18 months, account for virtually a third of the currently reported pretax profits which are up by 30 per cent.

But it would be a serious misjudgement to expect the same growth for the second half. Even the company's newly appointed managing director, Mr Charles Wenham, cannot be drawn on the subject.

The British side of the business looks risky. Unemployment means cutbacks on workwear, Sketchley still has not won any big hospital contract - and trading margins are getting tighter.

Mr Wenham faces an uncertain future and much is being laid upon his shoulders.

GEI

GEI International Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £825,000 (£740,000) Stated earnings 1.2p (1.1p) Turnover £22.8m (£22.4m) Net interim dividend 1.76p (1.78p) Share price 67p (up 10p) Yield Dividend payable 20.1.84 11.3 per cent

Small companies may bounce back more quickly than bigger ones after the recession, and GEI, the engineering and packaging machinery group, has

managed to push pretax profits up by 11.5 per cent. But the figures are still a long way short of those achieved in the busy days of the late 1970s, and Cox Deuholm, now included in the profits, remains a legal entity.

At 13 per cent, the somewhat faster rise in turnover points to fatter order books. But it also indicates how tough competition remains. One consequence of lower industrial demand and higher interest rates is that companies do not place orders so far into the future as they once did. Nevertheless, the volume of orders does appear to be rising.

The engineering side has benefited from the acquisition in April of Metramatic, without which profits might have been lower, and the Barlow and Chidlaw operations, which were losing money, have been transferred to Allspeed Holdings.

Although cash reserves have fallen from the almost £8m in the year-end balance sheet, a faster decline in interest rates and stemming some losses have produced a net interest inflow. If progress is maintained shareholders might be lucky enough to see the first dividend shortly.

Car sales lift Godfrey Davis profit

GODFREY DAVIS (HOLDINGS) Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £1.2m (£1.3m) Stated earnings 4.4p (3.3p) Turnover £50.7m (£45.5m) Net interim dividend 1.5p (1.5p) Share price 87p, up 2p Dividend payable 3.2.84

The big increase in car sales in the first six months helped Godfrey Davis (Holdings) Ford main dealerships contribute substantially higher profits to the group.

Car sales were up 27 per cent by volume, while the contract hire side of the motor business is now more stable.

New contract hire business is being financed directly by Godfrey Davis instead of by Ford, which gives the company substantial tax advantages and has reduced the rate of the first half to 33.3 per cent. About 2,000 vehicles are still to be run off under the old scheme so more benefits are still to come.

The motor dealerships benefited greatly from the exceptionally high level of new cars sold with A-plates in August, but Mr Cecil Redfern, the chairman, says sales would have been up even without this boost.

The motor business contributes about 55 per cent of profits

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Perth (Renter) Wigmores now holds a total of 2.5 million Broken Hill Property Company shares after market purchases at an average cost of AS12.38 (£8.62) each since the end of its tender offer which garnered 792,000 shares, the chairman, Mr Robert Holmes A Court said yesterday.

At yesterday's closing BHP price of AS12.80, the stake is worth AS32m.

Mr Holmes A Court said Wigmores would change its name to Bell Resources.

London Prudential Investment Trust Half-year to 31.10.83 Net earnings £212,000 (£167,000) Stated earnings 3.54p (2.78p) Net asset value 218.8p (167.1p) Net interim dividend 2.25p (same)

Sonite Half-year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £112,000 (loss £22,800) Stated earnings 2.7p (loss 1.144p) Turnover £1.3m (£1.4m) Net interim dividend 1p (nil)

Scottish National Trust Year to 30.9.83 Gross revenue £5.9m (5.3m) Stated earnings 4.31p (3.83p) Net asset value 224.8p (154.9p) Total dividend 3.9p (3.86p)

JW Spear and Sons Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax loss £159,000 (£489,000) Stated loss 4.3p (11.8p) Net interim dividend nil

COMMODITIES

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL				LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET			
Month	Volume	Settlement	Month	Close	Change	Month	Close
Jan 84	11	427	WHEAT A	117.00	0.00	WHEAT B	117.00
Feb 84	11	427	WHEAT C	117.00	0.00	WHEAT D	117.00
Mar 84	11	427	WHEAT E	117.00	0.00	WHEAT F	117.00
Apr 84	11	427	WHEAT G	117.00	0.00	WHEAT H	117.00
May 84	11	427	WHEAT I	117.00	0.00	WHEAT J	117.00
Jun 84	11	427	WHEAT K	117.00	0.00	WHEAT L	117.00
Jul 84	11	427	WHEAT M	117.00	0.00	WHEAT N	117.00
Aug 84	11	427	WHEAT O	117.00	0.00	WHEAT P	117.00
Sep 84	11	427	WHEAT Q	117.00	0.00	WHEAT R	117.00
Oct 84	11	427	WHEAT S	117.00	0.00	WHEAT T	117.00
Nov 84	11	427	WHEAT U	117.00	0.00	WHEAT V	117.00
Dec 84	11	427	WHEAT W	117.00	0.00	WHEAT X	117.00
Jan 85	11	427	WHEAT Y	117.00	0.00	WHEAT Z	117.00

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BOCI	9%
Citibank Savings	110%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Commercial Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

LONDON & PROVINCIAL SHOP CENTRES

Ronald Gerard & Bernard Berrick
Joint managing directors

Results for year ended 24th June, 1983

- Profits £1,411,000.
- Investment properties professionally revalued at £74 m.
- Net assets 373p per share.
- Office developments of 78,000 sq. ft. gross recently completed in Slough, Berks.
- Rental income will increase progressively by £830,000 to £4.4 m p.a. from rent reviews by 1988, based on current rental values.
- Net dividend of 3p per share.

	1983	1982
Rental income	£7000	£7000
Profit before tax	3,474	3,193
Fixed assets	79,943	81,152
Net assets	60,487	64,166
Net assets per 10p share	373p	396p
Gross dividend for the year	42.9%	34.3%

Reports and accounts available from The Secretary, London & Provincial Shop Centres (Holdings) p.l.c., 28, South Street, London W1Y 3JY

To advertise in the Times or Sunday Times please telephone

01-837 3311 or 3333
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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SCOTCH WHISKY

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Kenneth Stewart
Kenneth Stewart
Tractorman

Stuart Thomson
Stuart Thomson
Cooper

Duncan Macpherson
Duncan Macpherson
Sillman

William Macrae
Willie Macrae
Cooper

John Urquhart
Johnny Urquhart
Head Cooper

Johnny Pater
Johnny Pater
Mashman

Kenneth White
Kenneth White
Cooper

Ian Macleod
Ian Macleod
Sillman

Archie Murdoch
Archie Murdoch
Mashman

Ken Murray
Ken Murray
Brewer

George Thomson
George Thomson
Assistant Manager

John Murray
John Murray
Sillman

Kenneth Macdonald
Kenneth Macdonald
Mashman

Thomas Keith
Tommy Keith
Cooper

George Mackenzie
George Mackenzie
Mashman

Ian McGregor
Ian McGregor
Manager

EVERY GREAT WORK of ART
SHOULD BE SIGNED BY THE ARTIST.

Handcrafted by the Sixteen Men of Tain.

كذا من الأصل

MARKET REPORT by Derek Pain

Bid talk lifts Hill Samuel

ACCOUNT DAYS: Bog 3, Monday. Dealings end, Nov 25. Contango Day, Nov 28. Settlement Day, Dec 5

Clark, chairman, was also unavailable. Last week Hill Samuel reported interim net profits of £10.8m against £9.6m for the recent progress this performance disappointed the market.

Will the Breengreen cleaning group hold on to the 12 per cent shareholding it acquired in Sunlight Services during the fiercely contested bid battle? Mr. David Evans, chairman, says it will but the market thinks Breengreen's cash needs may tempt him to change his mind.

Bull, after the Vickers de Costa, Akroyd and Smithers and Charterhouse deals, Hill Samuel was not the only financial share under intense speculation. Marchbanks, Brown Shipley, Kleinworth Benson and Schroders were

firm as buyers played the spot market next to go game. In a day of bid activity it was not just the financial sector which attracted attention. Sugar group Tate and Lyle, up 12p on Monday, advanced a further 12p to a 380p peak on suggestions that Hanson Trust had brown bread of stalking London Brick and had turned its thoughts to the Mr Cuber business.

Tate and Lyle said it never commented on market talk and Hanson did not appear to want to say anything. After a mixed, irregular day which failed to produce any firm pattern, shares, as measured by the FT 30 Share Index, ended marginally lower. Gills, after their recent strength, succumbed to profit taking, suffering falls of up to 2 1/2%.

BOC Group, fell 3p to 234p in early trading on suggestions that 20m shares were on offer. Later the price regained an unchanged position. Molins, makers of cigarette machinery, gained 7p to 109p after a stockbroker lunch. Logica, the software house, continued its progress, gaining a further 12p to 265p. Behind the

little progress. However, poor little Messure almost halved to 7p on the news that its off-shore interests were not up to even the more subdued hopes. Asplinal Holdings, yesterday's spectacular newcomer, tumbled 17 1/2p, up 8p but two of Asil Nadir's stocks - Polly Peck and Cornell - lost ground on fears that their Middle Eastern mineral water operations could face some fierce competition.

Vague bid talk stirred Metal Clores into an 8p gain to 129p and another to encounter bid speculation the Scotia Group, although the imminence of interim figures also helped the shares reach 290p (up 8p).

With Reed International shares so strong following the announcement of its proposed Mirror Group Newspapers acquisition, there are growing hopes that S. Pearson could be tempted to demerge the Financial Times. Such thoughts spurred Pearson shares 10p higher to 395p. British and Commonwealth, the shipping group, came in for an after hours run, gaining 40p to 908p. The related Caledonian Investments finished 45p strong at 808p.

Intriguing times at London and Liverpool. The office equipment and video group. Stock market suggestions that the group is up for sale are denied by Mr Jeffrey Bonus, chief executive. "We are not hawking ourselves around", he declared. FAT Group, the printers and publishers, said to be interested but said it is not bidding. Yesterday L.L. shares fell 1p to 45p.

latest advance is the group's Hongkong Stock Exchange deal. Tea shares, such as Eastern Produce and Crosby House, reflected the bumper auction prices. And Atlantic Resources, the leading Irish stock, made

WALL STREET PRICES & COMMENT THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists various stocks like New Dairies, De Cap, etc.

SHIPPING

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists shipping companies like British Airways, etc.

MINES

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists mining companies like Anglo Am Coal, etc.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists financial trusts like Alford & Son, etc.

INSURANCE

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists insurance companies like Alico & Alico, etc.

PROPERTY

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists property companies like Allied Ltd, etc.

PLANTATIONS

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists plantation companies like Barlow Ridge, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists miscellaneous companies like Essex Wire, etc.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, COMPANY, PRICE CHG, PERCENT, DIV, YIELD, P/E. Lists unlisted securities like Air Call, etc.

STERLING: SPOT AND FORWARD

Table with columns: MARKET, RATE, MONTHS, etc. Lists sterling rates for various locations like New York, Amsterdam, etc.

MONEY MARKET

Table with columns: CLEARING RATE, DISCOUNT, OVERNIGHT, etc. Lists money market rates.

OTHER MARKETS

Table with columns: AUSTRALIA, FINLAND, HONGKONG, etc. Lists other market rates.

RECENT ISSUES table listing various financial issues and their prices.

BRITISH FUNDS table listing various British funds and their performance.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table listing various international investments.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table listing various local government investments.

DOLLAR STOCKS table listing various dollar-denominated stocks.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table listing various bank and discount rates.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERS table listing various brewery and distillery investments.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table listing various commercial and industrial investments.

A-B table listing various miscellaneous investments.

Will Hill Samuel, the diversified merchant banking group, be the next City institution to get embroiled in the furry of take over activity which is mesmerising the financial community?

According to stock market speculation yesterday an overseas group is busy building up a shareholding in the company which more than a decade ago almost merged with a then powerful force called Slater Walker.

Hill Samuel shares advanced a further 10p to a highest ever 296p as the gossips predicted a bid.

The company dismissed the stock market speculation. There was, it maintained, no evidence of any share stake being amassed and no approach had been received. And, for good measure, the bankers declared that it was not involved in any talks with stockbrokers or stockjobbers and was merely "keeping a variety of options open".

Mr Christopher Castleman, the chief executive who is responsible for much of the group's recent profits growth, was overcast and Sir Robert

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. Births: A baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

DEATHS. Mr John Smith, 78, of 123 Main St, London, died on November 14, 1983.

ANNOUNCEMENTS. The family of Mrs Jane Doe announces the death of their dear friend...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. SKI BLADON LINES. Fourteen top resorts in France, Switzerland, Italy and Austria...

RENTALS. MARSH & PARSONS. RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS. We provide a residential property of a high standard...

SITUATIONS WANTED. CAPABLE WELL-SPoken, well educated female seeks...

WINE AND DINE. ROMANTIC DINING. The intimate and romantic atmosphere of the restaurant...

COMMERCIAL SERVICES. LIMITED COMPANY. We offer a limited company for sale...

BIRTHS. BEAUMONT. On November 12th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

DEATHS. AGAR. On November 11th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

ANNOUNCEMENTS. WICKENDEE. The family of Mr and Mrs...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. AUSTRALIA AND WORLDWIDE. STAY IN THE SUN...

RENTALS. NATHAN WILSON & CO. We have a large selection of properties for rent...

SITUATIONS WANTED. I am a well educated and experienced professional...

WINE AND DINE. THE SHORT LIST. We offer a selection of wine and dine options...

COMMERCIAL SERVICES. LEGAL NOTICES. NOTICE is hereby given that...

BIRTHS. SANDERSON. On November 15th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

DEATHS. BORTON. On November 12th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

ANNOUNCEMENTS. DANIEL. In loving memory of Daniel...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. ITALY. Your winter holiday...

RENTALS. HAMPSHIRE. WILDWOOD ROAD. A detached house with a large garden...

SITUATIONS WANTED. I am a well educated and experienced professional...

WINE AND DINE. THE SHORT LIST. We offer a selection of wine and dine options...

COMMERCIAL SERVICES. LEGAL NOTICES. NOTICE is hereby given that...

BIRTHS. COONEY. On November 12th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

DEATHS. DAWSON. On November 11th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

ANNOUNCEMENTS. DICKWORTH. The family of Mr and Mrs...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. BRITISH PLANO. A selection of British piano models...

RENTALS. HOLLAND PARK, W8. A detached house with a large garden...

SITUATIONS WANTED. I am a well educated and experienced professional...

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BIRTHS. HALL. On November 12th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

DEATHS. HART. On November 11th, 1983, a baby boy born to Mr and Mrs...

ANNOUNCEMENTS. HAYES. The family of Mr and Mrs...

PERSONAL COLUMNS. HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. BRITISH PLANO. A selection of British piano models...

RENTALS. HOLLAND PARK, W8. A detached house with a large garden...

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Advertisement for 'HURD'S HILL LANGPORT SOMERSET' featuring a large house for sale.

Advertisement for 'BENTLEY'S DIAMONDS AND JEWELLERY' featuring various jewelry items.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with Selina Scott. Regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15 and 8.15; tonight's television previewed between 6.45 and 7.05; review of the morning papers at 7.18 and 8.18; pop music news from Mike Smith between 7.30 and 8.00; That's Life with Esther Rantzen between 8.00 and 8.30; and Agony between 8.30 and 9.00; horoscopes between 8.30 and 9.45.

ITV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. A review of the morning papers at 6.25; news from Gavin Scott at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 8.35 and 7.40; Wincey and friends at 8.50 and 9.02; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.05; Julia McKenzie interview from 7.20; Fortnight's Casebook at 7.45; pop video at 7.55; Gloria Hunniford's magic moments at 8.00; Eve Pollock's gossip column at 8.35; closing news headlines at 9.25.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: The life of a sand pit. 9.47 Festival of India. 10.04 Natural History: migration. 10.21 An interview with the late-night comedian from 7.20 Fortnight's Casebook at 7.45; pop video at 7.55; Gloria Hunniford's magic moments at 8.00; Eve Pollock's gossip column at 8.35; closing news headlines at 9.25.

BBC 2

9.10 Daytime on Two: Manufacturing with plastics. 9.30 Science: stability. 10.00 You and Me. 10.15 Rail statistics. 10.30 Maths: statistics. 11.00 Words and pictures. 11.17 Early music. 11.39 Economics: the money supply. 12.05 Lesson eight of the Italian conversation course.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown. Another two contestants pit their wits in the fast-moving anagrams and numbers competition. 5.30 The Body Show presented by Yvonne Campese. The fourth in the series of seven repeat programmes designed to prove that people of all shapes and sizes can benefit from exercise. This afternoon Miss Campese is joined by fellow teacher Shirley Brody who is pregnant and together they demonstrate how pregnant women as well as people under stress can exercise to relax their muscles (r).

CHOICE

9.25pm) observes the polygraph in action and an awesome sight it is. The victim lies in a chair, two conical tubes are wrapped round the chest, blood pressure measuring equipment is put on the right arm and two metal contacts are taped to the fingers of the left hand. When all this is in place, the questioning begins. Apologists for the new polygraph claim an accuracy figure of 95 per cent but with such intimidating paraphernalia it is almost certain that even the innocent will experience changes in breathing, perspiration and heartbeat - changes that the polygraph records and which are supposed to prove when a person is lying. Q.E.D. begins another series with a disturbing account of the use of the polygraph or lie-detector for commercial and police work in the United States - disturbing because the likelihood is that the same uses in this country without even having its infallibility proved. BIG BROTHER'S LITTLE TEST (BBC 1

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Your Midweek Choice. Part one. Rossini's overture to Signor Bruschini, Giochi e Mestischi Suite, and Dvorak's String Sextet in A, Op 48 (Members of Vienna Choir).

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 6.00pm and 9.00 AM) 6.00-6.30 (MFM/W). 6.30-6.59 (MFM/W). 7.00-7.29 (MFM/W). 7.30-7.59 (MFM/W). 8.00-8.29 (MFM/W). 8.30-8.59 (MFM/W). 9.00-9.29 (MFM/W). 9.30-9.59 (MFM/W). 10.00-10.29 (MFM/W). 10.30-10.59 (MFM/W). 11.00-11.29 (MFM/W). 11.30-11.59 (MFM/W). 12.00-12.29 (MFM/W). 12.30-12.59 (MFM/W).

BBC 1

9.00 Mastermind with Magnus Magnusson. 10.30 Play School. 11.00 News. 11.30 Regional News. 12.00 News. 12.30 Regional News. 1.00 News. 1.30 Regional News. 2.00 News. 2.30 Regional News. 3.00 News. 3.30 Regional News. 4.00 News. 4.30 Regional News. 5.00 News. 5.30 Regional News. 6.00 News. 6.30 Regional News. 7.00 News. 7.30 Regional News. 8.00 News. 8.30 Regional News. 9.00 News. 9.30 Regional News. 10.00 News. 10.30 Regional News. 11.00 News. 11.30 Regional News. 12.00 News. 12.30 Regional News.

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Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast. Today including 6.30, 7.30, 8.20 News Summary, 8.45 Prayer for the Day, 9.05, 9.55 Weather, 10.00 News, 10.05 Shipping Forecast, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 9.25, 9.35, 9.45, 9.55, 10.05, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 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11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 9.25, 9.35, 9.45, 9.55, 10.05, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 9.25, 9.35, 9.45, 9.55, 10.05, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 9.25, 9.35, 9.45, 9.55, 10.05, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 5.05, 5.15, 5.25, 5.35, 5.45, 5.55, 6.05, 6.15, 6.25, 6.35, 6.45, 6.55, 7.05, 7.15, 7.25, 7.35, 7.45, 7.55, 8.05, 8.15, 8.25, 8.35, 8.45, 8.55, 9.05, 9.15, 9.25, 9.35, 9.45, 9.55, 10.05, 10.15, 10.25, 10.35, 10.45, 10.55, 11.05, 11.15, 11.25, 11.35, 11.45, 11.55, 12.05, 12.15, 12.25, 12.35, 12.45, 12.55, 1.05, 1.15, 1.25, 1.35, 1.45, 1.55, 2.05, 2.15, 2.25, 2.35, 2.45, 2.55, 3.05, 3.15, 3.25, 3.35, 3.45, 3.55, 4.05, 4.15, 4.25, 4.35, 4.45, 4.55, 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